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Embroidery
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celebrating 15 YEARS!

DEAR READERS,

One of the biggest (it just might be THE biggest) embroidery struggles is placing designs perfectly onto fabric. I've ruined a few projects over the years because the embroidery was just off of center or too far into the seam allowance. I've gotten better at it, especially with all of the new great products that now exist, but I'm always looking for more guidance on the subject. We've enlisted our resident Q&A expert, Pamela Cox, to give us her top tips for placing embroideries onto collars. And you'll find 15 top tips for perfect placement on page 16.

I'm always praising in-the-hoop (ITH) projects, and another great thing about them is that perfect placement isn't required! Placement lines are stitched directly onto the stabilizer so each fabric layer is positioned without any stress. Find a great eyeglass case in our "In the Hoop" column on page 22. This project makes a great last-minute gift idea and requires minimal fabric. You can quickly and easily create one for each friend this holiday season. Plus, there's a free video showing you exactly how it's done at cmemag.com/freebies.

Another great ITH gift idea is our snow globe featured on the cover. This project is an ornament, but could easily double as a gift tag or be appliquéd onto a bag or wall hanging. Glitter is added underneath a layer of vinyl to give the appearance of actual snow. Does it get any cuter than that? Find all the snow globe designs at shopsewitall.com.

This is our last issue of 2016, which means our Mystery Sew-Along has come to a close. Read about the winner of our 15th anniversary sweepstakes on page 49, and see photos of her finished creation. Gladys is so lovely—I know you'll enjoy her story. And I hope you all enjoyed the mystery project and the six-design collection we released throughout the year. If you missed any of the blog posts, learn how to make the purse on page 42.

Have a happy and healthy holiday season!

Ellen

Ellen March

Content Director

coming attractions

Showcase your furry friends on unique projects; celebrate your love with Valentine's Day sentiments; learn tricky embroidery on elegant gloves, stitch stunning freestanding lace; and more! Look for the Jan/Feb 2017 issue, on newsstands Dec. 13, 2016.

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contributors

lisa archer

("In the Hoop: Flower Eyeglass Case"—page 22) is the owner and creative director of Pickle Pie Designs. She loves the challenge of creating in-the-hoop designs that reflect her personal style.

Home Base: Holly Springs, NC

Visit: picklepiedesigns.com

ramona baird

("Endless Possibilities"—page 54) is Education Director for the American Sewing Guild. She has over 15 years of both commercial and home embroidery experience.

Home Base: Southwestern WI

Visit: asg.org

kandi christian

("Scarlet Fever" – page 36) has taught classes all over the country. She has authored 15 sewing books and written many articles for *Creative Machine Embroidery*. Her passion and knowledge of sewing is contagious. She is the owner of Sew Timeless and will be sponsoring the new California show "Celebrate Sewing!"

pamela cox

("Q&A with Pamela Cox"—page 66) received a fashion design degree from The Boston School of Design with an emphasis on patternmaking. Purchasing her first embroidery machine added a new dimension to her education.

Home Base: Dublin, NH

kathy durmon

("Where the Heart Is"—page 60) began sewing as a young child. About 20 years ago, she walked through a machine dealership that had their embroidery machine running and immediately fell in love.

Home Base: Fayetteville, TN

Visit: kathydurmon.wordpress.com

sue o'very

("Holly Jolly Cuff"—page 64, "Festive Forest"—page 26) is the designer and owner of Sue O'Very Designs, Sealed With A Stitch and the In The Hoop Club. She specializes in fun, adorable projects that can be finished in one sitting. Follow her on all social media as @SueOVeryDesigns.

Home Base: Tampa, FL

Visit: sueoverydesigns.com

kim saba

("In the Navy Bag"—page 42) holds a degree in fashion design from the Fashion Institute of Technology. She loves to sew, play with her two dogs and collect everything vintage.

Visit: kimsaba.com

milinda jay stephenson

("Garland Greeting"—page 50) is an author whose latest novel, *Annie Laura's Triumph,* published by Mercer University Press, documents the lives of sewing women in Florida in the early 19th century. Included are links to free embroidery downloads of heirloom quilting and embroidery patterns for in-the-hoop projects.

Visit: milindajay.com

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about the experts and designers featured in this issue at cmemag.com.

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tips & tricks

TINY TOOL

Create a lint-cleaning tool for your machine by sticking both ends of a pipe cleaner into a straw end.

Pat H., Facebook

RIGHT SIDE DOWN

To keep spray adhesive from clogging up, spray with the can turned upside down until the spray stops.

Laurie D., email

STABLE HANGING

Place all of your stabilizer rolls in a hanging garment bag for tidy storage.

Crystal L., Facebook

Visit cmemag.com
for techniques and tricks to further your embroidery.

CLOSE CUTS

When clipping small jump threads, use tweezers to lift up the thread end and then cut close to the embroidery.

Maureen Y., Facebook

FLYING THE COOP

When a thread nest occurs, use a concave carving knife blade on the backside of the embroidery to remove it from the machine.

Christa G., Facebook

Send your tips and tricks to info@cmemag.com or post them on our Facebook fan page at facebook.com/creativemachineembroidery. If your tip is published, you'll receive a fabulous gift.

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1. Treat yourself to the cutest designer pins around. **Modkid's Splendid Spears Pins** are bright, colorful and cheerful. You'll never have to worry about missing a pin again. Each logo-embossed collector's pin tin comes filled with 100 extra-strong, nickel-plated steel, 2¼"-long pins in assorted colors. **($6.95, modkidboutique.com)**

2. Add the **Christmas Tree appliqué** design to napkins, placemats and a table runner for your holiday dinner around the table. The design features one tree with classic colored ball ornaments and a radiating tree star. **($3, etsy.com/HippityHopEmbroidery)**

3. Lift rulers and templates without damaging fingernails with **Ever Sewn's Ruler Grip.** Use the grip to enhance cutting and marking by holding templates in place. Measuring at 3"-long, this tool can assist with the smallest of templates and rulers. **($4.99, eversewn.com)**

4. Get the tool that easily glides through multiple layers of fabric giving you smooth chenille cuts. The **Fiskars Chenille Maker** features a Softgrip® handle that gives comfort and control for both right- and left-hand users. **($29.99, www2.fiskars.com)**

5. Keep your workspace neat and tidy with a **Sassy Clip.** Clip to the edge of your workstation to keep your drink out of the way of a possible spill or to keep your spray adhesive handy and off your table. Comes in blue, purple and pink. **($4.99, sullivansusa.net)**

6. The **Singer SE300 Legacy** is a great machine for people new to embroidery. The machine features basic embroidery software, an LCD touch screen, LED lights, 2 snap-on embroidery hoops and 200 embroidery designs with 6 alphabet options included. **($1299, singer.com)**

7. Stitch these beautiful **Freestanding Lace Icicles** to create classic winter charm in your home for the holidays. With numerous designs and sizes to choose from, you will be able to decorate a tree or mantel or even add it to your gift wrapping. **($9.97, emblibrary.com)**

8. Use thread that was once solely employed for industrial purposes with **Madeira's Frosted Matt Thread.** This thread is not only strong but also fade resistant even after multiple washes and sun exposure. With 40 vibrant colors to choose from and over 100,000 stitches per spool, there is plenty of room to be creative. **(prices vary, madeiramart.com)**

9. Make the perfect hair accessory for your little winter lover. The **Snowflake 3D Bow** is perfect when paired with blues, whites and anything that glitters. The design features a center bow that is wrapped up with a snowflake and two bursts of snowflake swirls on each side. **($5, etsy.com/HBDaisyDesigns)**

must haves

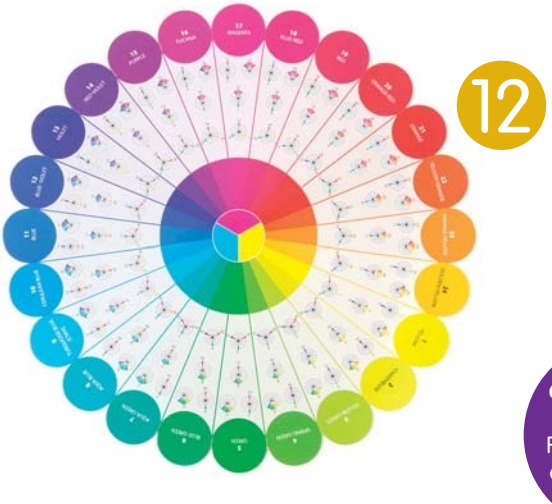
the latest & greatest tools & designs

10. Keep measuring easy and accessible with **Colonial Needle's Handy Tape II.** This self-adhesive measuring tape is 25'-long with a 12" repeat. It's the perfect tool to use as a seam or hem guide, to measure odd-shaped items or as a permanent marking tool on your sewing surface. **($7.49, colonialneedle.com)**

11. Keep your display screen free from smudges and fingerprints with the **iRoller Touch-screen Cleaner.** Just a few passes back and forth on your machine's screen will remove bacteria and smears better than any microfiber cloth. Simply rinse under water to clean and reuse when necessary. **($20, sktproductions.com)**

12. If color theory is not your strong suit, the **Essential Color Wheel Companion** is a must have. This tool will give you all of the confidence you need to select the perfect color combinations. One side of the color wheel features 24 pure colors with 4 essential color-plan wheels for each color. The opposite side features a range of each pure color's tints, shades and tones. **($12.95, ctpub.com)**

13. Update your Christmas tree décor with the darling CME **Snow Globe Ornament Collection.** The collection features six designs (Birds & Berries, Holiday Home, Snowman, Christmas Tree, Santa's Sleigh and Reindeer) all made in the hoop. Add some extra cheer to the snow globes with glitter or sequins. **($34.99/collection, $6.99/individual, shopsewitall.com)**



14. Clothworks 25 Days of Christmas fabric collection by Anne Bollman has all the holiday cheer you need to create the perfect holiday gift. The 25 Days of Christmas panel is perfect for an advent calendar project and the snowflake or candy prints would be great for appliqué. **(prices vary, clothworks.com)**

15. Add fun holiday charm with the **Christmas Reindeer Names embroidery design**, which brings a modern look to a classic Christmas tale. Showcase the design on your sofa pillows or add it to your family's holiday pajamas for a cute family-fun photo on Christmas morning. **($4.99, etsy.com/OneOakDesigns)**

16. If you're looking for an alternative to pins, **Clover Wonder Clips** are excellent for holding together multiple layers of fabric. They're also great when stitching projects on leather, vinyl and laminate fabrics. Easy to use and reuse. **($6.95/10 pack and $32.99/50 pack, shopsewitall.com)**

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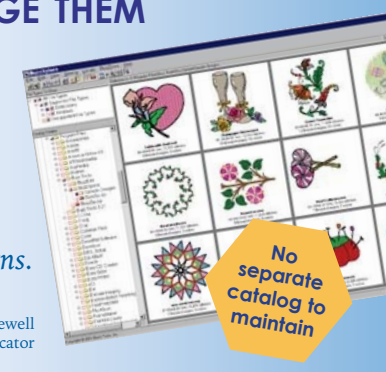

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celebrating 15 YEARS!

Join us each issue as we celebrate our 15th anniversary with 15 tips for machine embroidery success.

15 TOP TIPS: Perfect Placement

Getting your embroidery in exactly the right place can be tricky, but there are many tools and methods available to make sure each design lands exactly where you want it to. Read on for 15 ways to perfectly position designs on fabric and in the hoop.

1 Use a **paper template** to find the perfect placement for your design. Templates are true-to-size printouts or copies of the design you're going to use. They're often included in design packs, but they're easy to make yourself as well. Open the design in an embroidery editing, sizing or digitizing program. Adjust the software settings to include the vertical and horizontal centerlines, make sure it's sized at 100%; print onto paper.

2 Use a **vellum template**. They work the same as paper templates but are more transparent. You can print or photocopy a vellum template just as you would a paper template.

3 Use a **transparency template**. Use an ink-jet or laser printer to print a transparency template. Packs of transparencies are often expensive, but single sheets are affordable and found at office supply stores or copy shops.

4 Use a **pressure-sensitive template**. This lightweight, transparent paper is adhesive-backed to aid with placement. Templates made with it are reusable and eliminate the need for pinning **(A).**

A

5 Use a **placement line** to simplify stitching on tight areas, such as collar points, cuffs and pockets. Scan the desired embroidery area. Using digitizing software, add the edges of that area to the design as the first step, paying attention to the desired placement **(B).** Hoop a piece of stabilizer and place the hoop in the machine. Stitch the first step to create a placement line **(C).** Spray the stabilizer with temporary spray adhesive and position the project along the placement line. Finger-press to secure. Return the hoop to the machine and embroider the design.

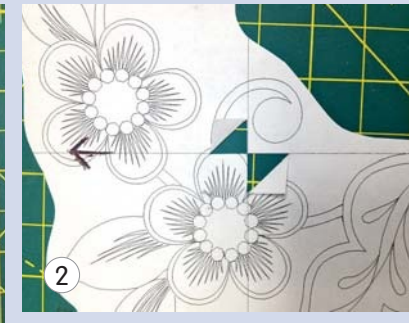
B

C

USING A PAPER TEMPLATE

Begin with a paper template (or more than one for multiple embroideries). Mark the design upper edge using an arrow on the vertical centerline. Cut out the design, leaving a ¼" border **(1).** Using a rotary cutter, cut a small slit at the horizontal and vertical centerlines intersection and fold back two corners, creating two small triangle-shaped openings **(2).**

Use the templates to audition the design on the project **(3).** Once you're satisfied, mark the design center through the triangles using chalk or a removable fabric marker. Also mark an arrow denoting the design upper edge. Remove the template **(4).**



6 Use an **Embroidery Placement Ruler** to achieve perfect placement on shirts. The ruler features pre-marked industry standard embroidery placement markers that fit an adult small to 4XL. Simply follow the directions printed on the ruler to align the marks for the correct size with the center front and shoulder seams, and then mark the centerlines using the corner of the ruler **(D).**

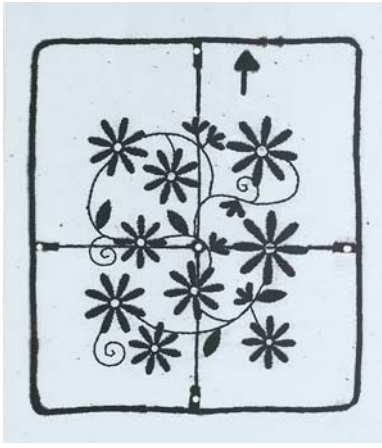
7 Use an **Easy Mark Grid** centering template to center and evenly space embroidery designs. Align the grid over the fabric with its center positioned over the desired design center. Use a removable fabric marker to mark the dots through the template holes, and then remove the grid and connect the dots to form a solid line. Align the needle over the cross marks and embroider the design **(E).**

Find the Embroidery Placement Ruler at **shopsewitall.com.**

D

E

F



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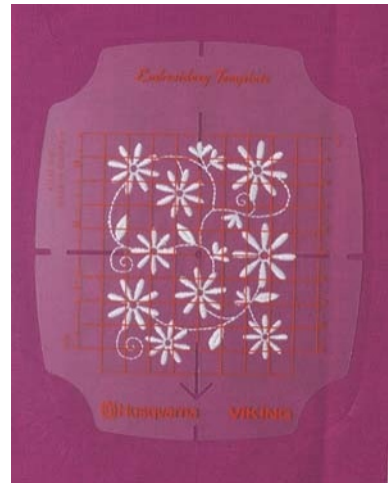


8 Before beginning embroidery, always sink the unthreaded needle to make sure it is perfectly aligned with the center of the cross marks. If it isn't, adjust the hoop position and try again until the needle pierces the correct spot. Raise the needle, thread it, and embroider the design.

9 Use **adhesive rulers** to mark wherever it would be useful to have a ruler or straightedge but difficult to place one. The backing peels off to reveal a low-tack adhesive so that the ruler will stay in place but be easily removed. They're great for triangulating and extending lines without marking on the fabric.

10 Use a **protractor** to correct for crooked hooping. Mark a line between center marks on the hoop (adhesive rulers are great for this!). Extend the closest cross mark and use the protractor to measure the angle between. On the machine, rotate the design by that many degrees in the correct direction.

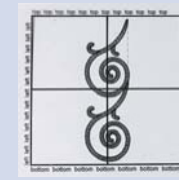
11 Make a **fabric template** and convert it to paper. If possible, use a piece of the actual fabric you will be embroidering so the process doubles as a pattern test. Hoop the fabric with the proper stabilizer, load the design into the machine and embroider. Press the design from the wrong side and then photocopy it **(F).**

12 Make a fabric template and trace it onto the **plastic hoop template** that comes with the machine. Use a dry- or wet-erase marker so it's easily removed when the embroidery is complete. Use the holes in the template to mark the design centerlines **(G).**

FABRIC TEMPLATES

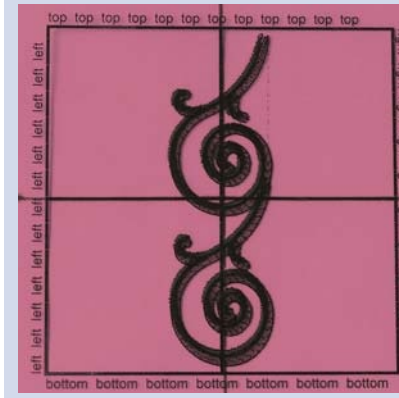
A paper template is a flat, computer-generated interpretation of how a design will appear on fabric. It doesn't take into consideration how the fabric, stabilizer and thread will affect the design. Here's an example of how "off" a computer-generated template can be and why a fabric template is the best option when precision is crucial.

Design template printed from computer onto transparency film.



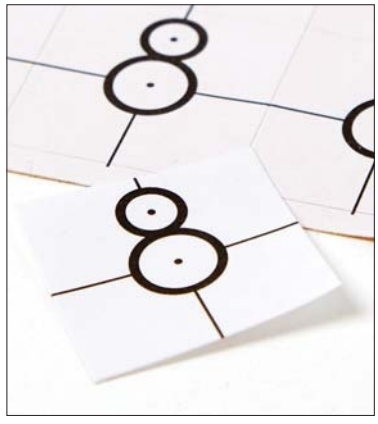
Design embroidered onto base fabric scraps

Computer generated template overlaid onto embroidered fabric



The exact same design was used to print the template and stitch the design. Notice how they don't quite align? Stitching on actual fabric with actual thread changes the design just a little—so when accuracy is vital, take the extra time to make a fabric template.

J



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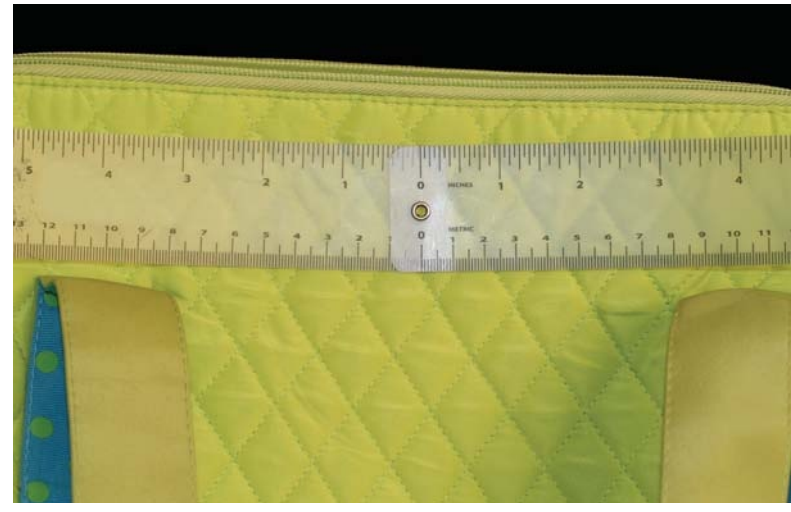

L

13 Use **targeting stickers**. In their most basic form, these are just preprinted cross marks that allow you to avoid marking directly on the fabric, but some machines include "snowman" stickers, so called because of their two adjacent circles **(J).** The machines that use these stickers are able to sense their location and align the needle to them automatically. To use, place the sticker with the center of the large circle in the center or at the edge of the desired design placement. On the machine, indicate where the sticker is in relation to the design. Use the machine's sensor to align the needle, and then remove the sticker and embroider the design.

14 Use **centering rulers**. These transparent rulers often come in sets of three, and each has a grommet in one end. Position two of the rulers as necessary, aligning the grommets to find the center of an area. Mark the center through the grommets using a removable fabric marker **(K).**

15 Use the **plastic template** that comes with the machine to assist with hooping **(L).** Place the template inside the hoop inner ring. Place the outer hoop under the fabric and stabilizer to be hooped. Settle the inner ring over the fabric, matching the centerlines and adjusting as necessary. Carefully push the hoop into the outer ring. Check the placement; if it's okay, tighten the screw. If not, unhoop and try again.

SOURCES

Shop Sew it All carries the Embroidery Placement Ruler: shopsewitall.com.

Baby Lock provided the mini hoop with template: babylock.com.

Bernina provided the ArtLink embroidery software, available for free at bernina.com.

Designs by Hope Yoder provided the Easy Mark Grid System, the pink backpack and the lime green duffle: hopeyoder.com.

Husqvarna Viking provided the hoop template: husqvarnaviking.com.

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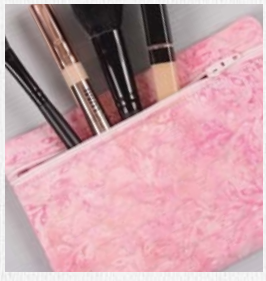


FLOWER EYEGLASS CASE

by Lisa Archer

Stash your glasses in style with this fast and easy in-the-hoop design.

WATCH IT!
See Lisa create this project at cmemag.com/freebies.

Download the free ITH Flower Eyeglass Case from cmemag.com/freebies until Dec. 31, 2016. Find the design at shopsewitall.com after the expiration date.

ITH EYEGLASS CASES are so fun to make. They're easily stashed in a purse, plus they're great at craft fairs and as gifts. This version is easy enough for beginners and fun for experienced embroiderers as well, with lots of options for creativity when choosing fabrics. The raw edge appliqué flower looks great in a fabric that contrasts with the main fabric.

Raw edge appliqués work really well with quality cotton fabrics and knits, though avoid using fabrics that unravel. With use and age, the fabric will take on a lovely worn texture. Raw edge appliqués have a wonderfully unique appearance, and they stitch quickly because you don't have to wait for a satin stitch to complete. When you need to stitch a few dozen of the same project, you'll appreciate the quick stitching!

Use foam batting for this eyeglass case; it's much thicker than standard batting and helps protect the glasses. Foam batting also gives the case a nice firm shape.

MATERIALS

+ 1 fat quarter
+ 4" square of coordinating fabric (flower)
+ 2½" square of coordinating fabric (leaf)
+ Hand sewing needle
+ Foam batting
+ Cut-away mesh stabilizer
+ 5x7 or larger hoop
+ Embroidery tape (See "Source.")

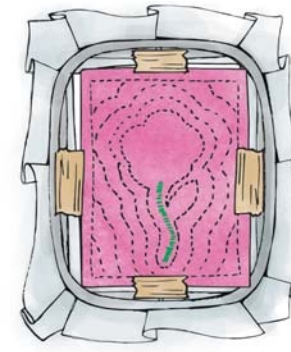
CUT

- From the main fabric, cut two 6"x9" rectangles and one 6"x16" rectangle.
- Fold the large rectangle in half lengthwise with wrong sides together; press.
- From the foam batting, cut one 6"x9" rectangle and one 6"x8" rectangle.

EMBROIDER

- Download the Flower Eyeglass Case design at cmemag.com/freebies. Load the design onto the machine.
- Hoop a piece of mesh stabilizer, and then place the hoop onto the machine.
- Embroider step one to create a placement line directly on the stabilizer.
- Place the large batting rectangle over the placement line. Cover it with one small main fabric rectangle with the right side facing up. Tape to secure. Using coordinating thread, embroider step two to create the quilting stitches.
- Using green thread, embroider the third step to create the stem and leaf placement line **(A).**
- Place the leaf fabric square over the leaf placement line. Tape in place. Embroider step four to create a cutting line **(B).**
- Remove the hoop from the machine, but leave the project in the hoop. Trim around the cutting line, leaving a narrow fabric border.
- Place the flower fabric square over the unquilted section of fabric above the stem. Tape to secure. Stitch step five to create the flower **(C).**
- Remove the hoop from the machine, but leave the project in the hoop. Trim around the cutting line, leaving a narrow fabric border.
- Embroider step six to create two small placement lines **(D).**
- Insert the small batting rectangle between the folded fabric rectangle

A



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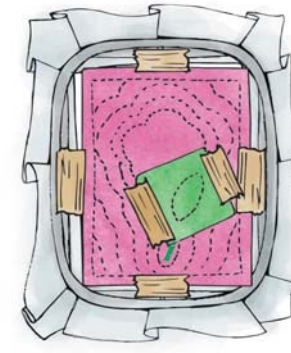

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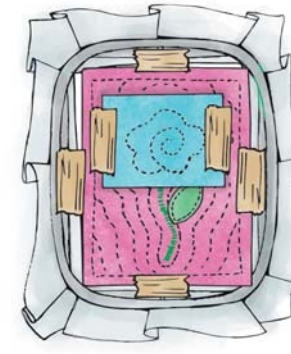

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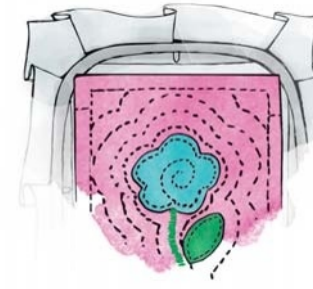

wrong sides to create a fabric/batting/fabric sandwich.

- Place the sandwich over the hoop. Align the fold with the two small placement lines near the project upper edge. The folded fabric should sit just below the placement lines.
- Tape the folded fabric layer in place along the sides and lower edge.
- The foam batting will add bulk. Raise the presser foot a bit, if possible, and decrease the stitching speed. Embroider step seven to tack the layers in place.
- Center the remaining small fabric rectangle over the project with right sides together. Tape in place. Embroider the final step to complete the project.

FINISH

- Remove the project from the hoop. Trim around the edges, leaving a small seam allowance. Trim away the excess batting up to the seam to reduce bulk, if desired. Clip the corners.
- Turn the eyeglass case inside out through the side opening. Whipstitch or slipstitch the opening closed.
- Turn the case inside out once more through the upper edge, poking out the corners well. Press to finish.

DESIGN

Eyeglass Case: Download the ITH Flower Eyeglass Case free from cmemag.com/freebies until Dec. 31, 2016. Purchase the design at shopsewitall.com after the expiration date.

SOURCE

Shop Sew it All carries Embroidery Perfection Tape: shopsewitall.com.

WATCH & LEARN!

Watch as Lisa walks you through six exclusive in-the-hoop projects, including the Flower Eyeglass Case project, at cmemag.com/freebies.

Bonus: Find Lisa's beginner machine embroidery videos, *Machine Embroidery for the Absolute Beginner* and *Machine Embroidery Basics*, at shopsewitall.com, brought to you by Sulky of America.

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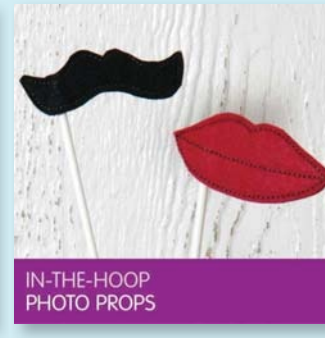

A great companion to these videos, the **MACHINE EMBROIDERY ESSENTIALS** bundle at **shopsewitall.com** includes everything you need to stock your sewing room for embroidery.

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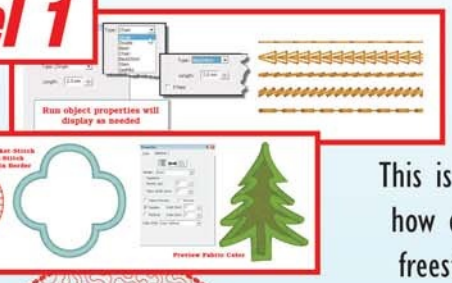

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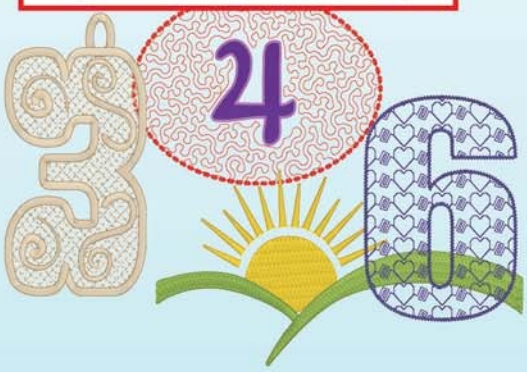

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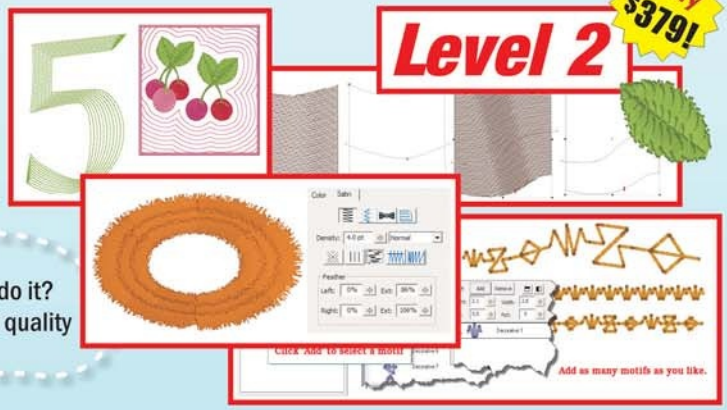

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Festive Forest

BY SUE O'VERY

Stitch up a cheery batch of in-the-hoop chenille Christmas trees, perfect for a holiday table setting or perched on the mantle.

MATERIALS

Supplies listed are enough to make one tree.

+ Three 9″x12″ sheets of green felt
+ Eight 6″x8″ rectangles of green print cotton fabric
+ Stiff fusible interfacing
+ Water-soluble topper
+ Coordinating embroidery thread
+ 5x7 hoop or larger
+ Teflon pressing sheet
+ Chenille rotary cutter
+ Small craft scissors
+ Embroidery tape (See "Source.")
+ Hot glue gun (optional)
+ Pin back (optional)
+ 12″ of ⅝″-wide ribbon (optional)
+ Festive Forest chenille tree embroidery design (See “Design.”)

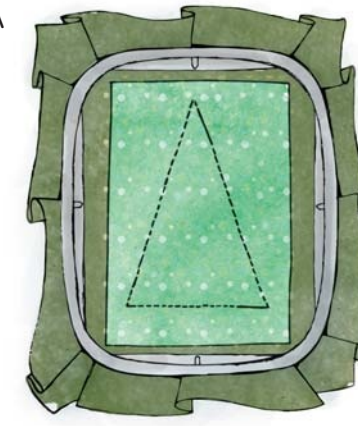
PREPARE

- From the green felt, set two sheets aside and cut one sheet into two 6″x8″ rectangles for the tree backs.
- Cut two 6″x8″ rectangles each from the fusible interfacing and water-soluble topper.
- Place one small felt rectangle wrong side up on a flat work surface. Place the fusible interfacing, fusible side down, on the felt rectangle and fuse in place using a Teflon pressing sheet. Repeat to fuse the remaining small felt rectangle.

EMBROIDER

- Download the Festive Forest embroidery design from cmemag.com/freebies until Dec. 31, 2016. The design will be available after the expiration date at sueoverydesigns.com.
- Thread the needle and bobbin with matching embroidery thread.
- Choose the design for the tree with the bottom slit.
- Hoop one green felt sheet. Position one cotton rectangle right side up over the felt; use tape to secure. Insert the hoop onto the machine and embroider step one to secure the lower cotton layer. **(A).**
- Remove the hoop from the machine. Layer three cotton rectangles right side up over the tree placement stitch, ensure the layers are flat and smooth. Secure using tape.
- Insert the hoop onto the machine and embroider step two to create the chenille stitching **(B).**
- Remove the hoop from the machine and place it on a flat cutting surface. Use the small scissors to slice 1" to 2" between the stitching lines **(C).**
- Slip the long pointed end of the chenille rotary cutter under the upper three cotton layers and cut to the end of each row. Cut through three layers of the cotton fabric only, not through the first layer of cotton or the felt base.
- Place the topper over the cut layers to keep them flat; tape each side to secure. Turn the hoop to the wrong side. Tape the interfaced felt back-

A



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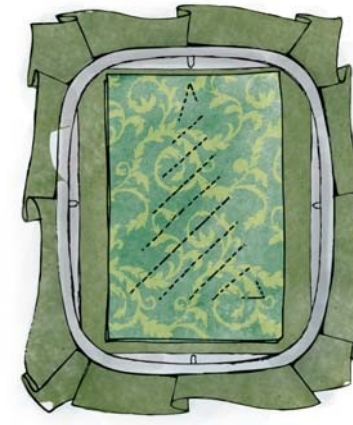

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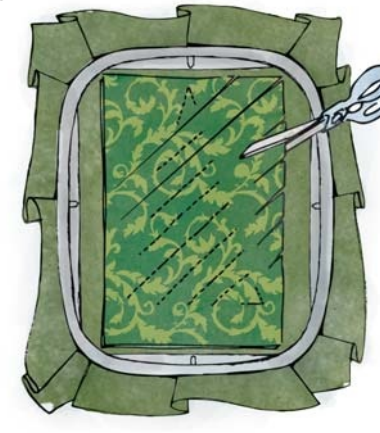

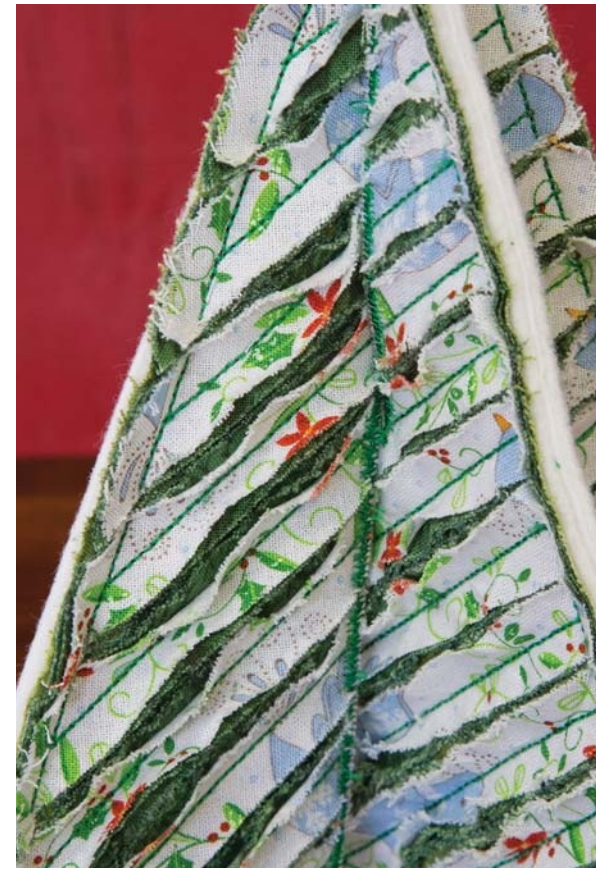

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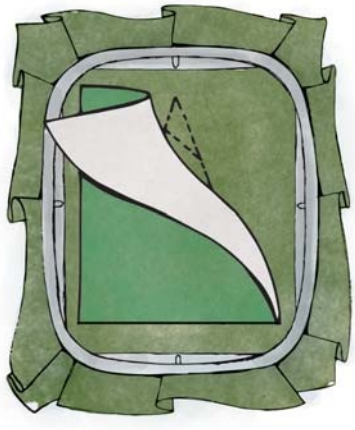

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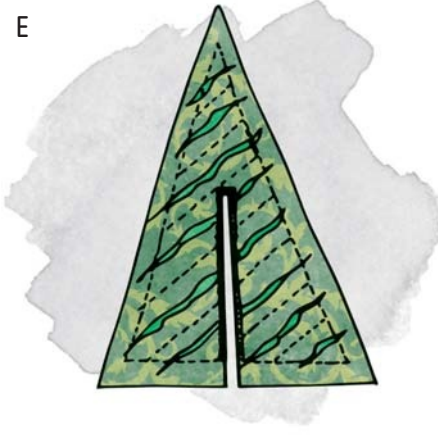

ing in place over the chenille stitching with the felt side up **(D).**

- Insert the hoop into the machine; embroider step three to secure the chenille strips and felt backing.
- Embroider step four to create the tree slit. Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop.
- Cut ¼" beyond the outer running stitch and cut the tree slit. Remove the topper and open the chenille layers **(E).**
- Repeat these steps to create a second tree that has a top slit.

CONSTRUCT

- Connect the trees by inserting one tree through the other at the slits.

Tip

Trim the top three cotton layers ¾" to 1" from the edge to make it easier to use the chenille cutter and ensure you don't accidentally cut the base layer.

- As an optional step, tie ribbon into a bow and hot glue the bow to a pin back. Pin through the upper corners.

DESIGN

Download the chenille tree embroidery design from cmemag.com/freebies until Dec. 31, 2016. Find the design at sueoverydesigns.com after the expiration date.

SOURCE

Shop Sew it All carries Embroidery Perfection Tape: shopsewitall.com.

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Snow Globe Ornaments

Embroider a set of snow globe ornaments to adorn packages or a Christmas tree. These little beauties stitch up in no time using minimal materials and make great last-minute gifts.

Find the Christmas Snow Globe Ornament design collection at shopsewitall.com.

MATERIALS

Materials listed are enough to make one snow globe, approximately 4½˝ tall.

+ Two 5″x7″ rectangles of light blue felt
+ 2″x4½″ rectangle of brown felt
+ 5″ square of lightweight vinyl
+ Medium- to heavyweight water-soluble stabilizer
+ Thread: bobbin & rayon embroidery (light blue, brown & colors according to design)
+ 4″ length of 1″ to 1½″-wide coordinating ribbon
+ Small amount of white or iridescent glitter
+ Embroidery tape (See "Source.")
+ Appliqué scissors (optional)

PREPARE

- Download the Snowman Snow Globe design from cmemag.com/freebies until Dec. 31, 2016. Find the design and the rest of the collection after the expiration date at shopsewitall.com. Load the design into the machine.
- Load one bobbin with light blue thread and one with brown thread. Use standard bobbin thread until step 8, and then use matching thread in the bobbin and needle (either light blue or brown) to complete the design.
- Hoop a rectangle of water-soluble stabilizer. Place the hoop onto the machine.

EMBROIDER

- Embroider step 1, which is the globe placement stitch. Remove the hoop from the machine. Place one light blue felt rectangle right side up over the placement stitches; tape the perimeter to secure.
- Re-place the hoop onto the machine, and then embroider step 2, which is the felt anchoring line **(A).** Remove the hoop from the machine.
- Using appliqué scissors or fine-tip embroidery scissors, trim the felt as close to the anchoring stitches as possible. Re-place the hoop onto the machine.

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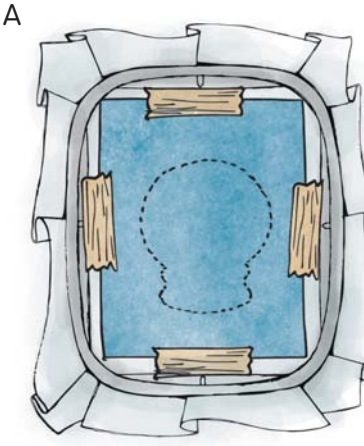

Tip

The stars and snow are the last elements to be stitched in the globe designs.

Tip

Leave a piece of tape securing the top of the ribbon in place until stitching is finished so it doesn't fold under during the final steps.

B

- Embroider step 3, which is the globe design. Clip jump threads with each thread change. Once the globe design is complete, remove the hoop from the machine.
- Place a small amount of glitter in the center of the globe design, forming a pile. Center the vinyl square over the globe design and glitter; tape the vinyl perimeter to secure **(B).** Re-place the hoop onto the machine.
- Embroider step 4, which is the vinyl anchoring stitch. Remove the hoop from the machine, and then remove the tape. Trim the vinyl as close to the anchoring stitches as possible.
- Center the brown rectangle over the globe-base stitching lines; tape the perimeter to secure. Re-place the hoop onto the machine. Embroider step 5, which is the base anchoring stitch. Remove the hoop from the machine. Remove the tape, and then trim the brown felt as close to the anchoring stitches as possible **(C).** Re-place the hoop onto the machine, and then embroider step 6, which is the base design.

- Remove the hoop from the machine and flip it over on a flat work surface. Fold the ribbon in half widthwise. Center the fold 1" beyond the globe upper edge; tape in place **(D).**
- Center the remaining light blue felt rectangle over the globe perimeter; tape the perimeter to secure. Re-place the hoop onto the machine.
- Embroider step 7, which is the back anchoring stitch. Remove the hoop from the machine, and then flip over the hoop. Remove the tape, and then trim the felt as close to the anchoring

C

D

E

stitches as possible, being careful to not cut the ribbon **(E).** Re-place the hoop onto the machine.

- Embroider step 8 to complete the satin stitch around the base and step 9 to complete the satin stitch around the globe, using matching thread in the needle and bobbin.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the stabilizer from the hoop. Carefully tear away the stabilizer beyond the design. Using a damp cotton swab or cloth, blot away the excess stabilizer from the design perimeter.

DESIGN
Snowman Snow Globe Ornament, *Creative Machine Embroidery* exclusive; shopsewitall.com.

SOURCE
Shop Sew it All carries Embroidery Perfection Tape: shopsewitall.com.

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Scarlet Fever

BY KANDI L. CHRISTIAN

Embellish a tunic with a tone-on-tone heirloom design for the perfect holiday-and-beyond top. Plus learn techniques for patching a gap in a continuous hem design.

New Look 6025

MATERIALS

+ Tunic pattern (such as New Look 6025)
+ Mediumweight red silky fabric (amount according to pattern envelope plus 6″)
+ Thread: coordinating all-purpose & embroidery
+ Notions (according to pattern envelope)
+ Stabilizer: heavyweight water-soluble & self-adhesive tear-away
+ Needles: 75/11 embroidery & 75/11 universal
+ Removable fabric marker
+ Coordinating border and corner embroidery designs appropriate for cutwork edging (approximately 6″x1½″ and 4⅝″ square; see "Designs")

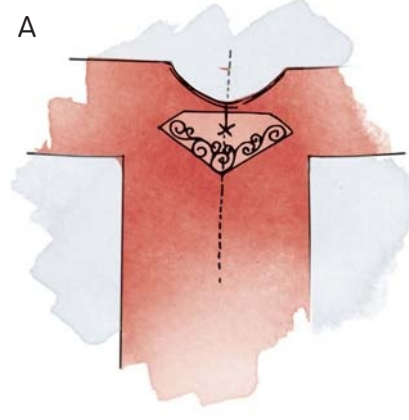
PREPARE

- From the fabric, cut out the pattern pieces, adding three inches to the front and back hemline to allow for hooping.
- On the front piece, mark the center-line at the neckline and at the hemline with a fabric marker.
- Using the fabric marker, transfer the original hemline from the front and back pattern pieces to the corresponding fabric pieces.
- Print one template of the corner design and three or four templates of the border design. Set aside.

EMBROIDER

- Load the corner design onto the machine.
- Thread the machine and bobbin with red embroidery thread.
- Place the corner template on the tunic center-front line with the template center horizontal mark 2½″ below the neckline raw edge, the point facing down and the template vertical center mark on the center-front line **(A).**
- Hoop the self-adhesive stabilizer. Use a pin to score diagonal lines across the stabilizer and remove the paper.
- Carefully place the front piece onto the stabilizer, keeping the template straight and the fabric smooth. Take care not to stretch the fabric. Gently finger-press to adhere.

A



Tip

Use some of the extra fabric left over from cutting to stitch out a test sample and to attempt to match two border designs as practice. Designs that aren't symmetrical are more forgiving when matching the design around the hemline.

EMBROIDERING WITH A WING NEEDLE

Heirloom designs like the one used on the sample are often designed for use with a wing needle. Use the wing needle for the first step (or as appropriate for the design you're using), then change to a standard 75/11 embroidery needle to finish the design.

Use thread that matches the fabric for the wing needle work. If you use contrasting thread, the holes will fade into the background because your eye goes to the contrasting thread. If you use matching thread, your eye will go to the hole instead. The rest of the design can be matching, as in this tunic, or contrasting.

SPECIAL OFFER!

Get 30% off Kandi Christian's book *Classic Linens,* which includes the machine embroidery patterns used for this tunic, at sewtimeless.com. Enter offer code CME1216 in the transaction code area during checkout.

WORKING WITH SLINKY FABRICS

Slinky fabrics that drape and shine are beautiful and perfect for the holiday season, but they are often tricky to work with. Use these tips for slinky sewing success.

- Before cutting the fabric, cover the cutting surface with craft paper to reduce slippage over the surface.
- Place a layer of tissue paper on the cutting surface, and then lay the fabric over it. Pin the pattern pieces all the way through the tissue paper to stabilize it as you cut.
- Don't use a rotary cutter on slippery fabric. Use very sharp scissors and cut through the underlying tissue paper as well.
- When pinning delicate fabric, place the pins parallel to the raw edge within the seam allowance so pin holes won't show on the outside of the finished garment.
- If your fabric tends to pucker when you stitch it, place a strip of paper stabilizer under the seam as you sew, and then carefully tear it away. Very thin, fine fabric might require a double layer to lie flat.
- If backstitching is causing problems, avoid it by sewing the first few stitches with a very small stitch length. Gradually increase the length every few stitches to reach the desired length. Do the same in reverse at the end of the stitching line. If the machine has a tie-on function, use that instead.

- Remove the template, place the hoop into the machine, and embroider the design. Remove the hoop from the machine and tear away the stabilizer.
- Construct the tunic following the instructions on the pattern guidesheet, leaving the hemline free.
- Center one border template along the tunic front with the design lower edge along the original hemline.
- Place another border template next to the first. Continue placing the templates until you reach the side seam, overlapping the seam if necessary.
- Remove all the templates except the one at the side seam, and hoop the fabric with water-soluble stabilizer, centering one template in the hoop.
- Load the border design into the machine.
- Remove the template, place the hoop into the machine and embroider the design.
- Repeat to embroider each segment, using the templates as a guide, until the hemline is complete.

- If you reach the spot where the original side design begins and the designs don't perfectly align, try one of three techniques. If the space is only slightly smaller than the design, reduce the length of the final segment first by 5%, then 10% and so on up to 20%. If this makes the design fit, stitch out the reduced design. To fill a small gap, use a satin stitch to fill in the extra area at the side back. Draw the appropriate line with a marking pen to join the spaces. If the space is large enough, trace a few details from the template in the space. Set the machine to a satin stitch with a 0.6 length and 4.0 width. Place water-soluble stabilizer under the area and embroider along the lines.

FINISH

- Carefully cut the fabric away from the outside design curve **(B).**
- Wash away the stabilizer completely and allow the fabric to dry. Press.

DESIGNS
Heirloom Linens Design Collection,
Sew Timeless: sewtimeless.com.

B

GET THE LOOK ON A READY-MADE TUNIC

- Purchase a tunic that falls well below the hips—upper- to mid-thigh is a good length.
- Carefully rip out the hem stitching. Follow the existing hemline as you embroider. If there isn't enough hem to hoop the tunic, baste a piece of 3" to 4"-wide waste fabric to the hemline lower edge Make sure the design doesn't catch the waste fabric.
- Embroider the design corner 2" below the neckline.
- Embroider the design along the hem.

Husqvarna VIKING®

My Wishlist

HUSQVARNA VIKING® DESIGNER EPIC™ sewing and embroidery machine!

- Maximized sewing space for finishing even the largest holiday quilt.
- Bright LED lights so I can stay up with the elves and stitch into the night!
- MySewMonitor App so I can embroider while I bake.
- Beautiful dimensional stitches to add that sparkle.
- JoyOS ADVISOR™ with 120 animated step-by-step tutorials.

Whats on your wishlist?

Designer | EPIC™

www.husqvarnaviking.com/epic

Visit *www.husqvarnaviking.com/epic_wishlist* to print your list now!

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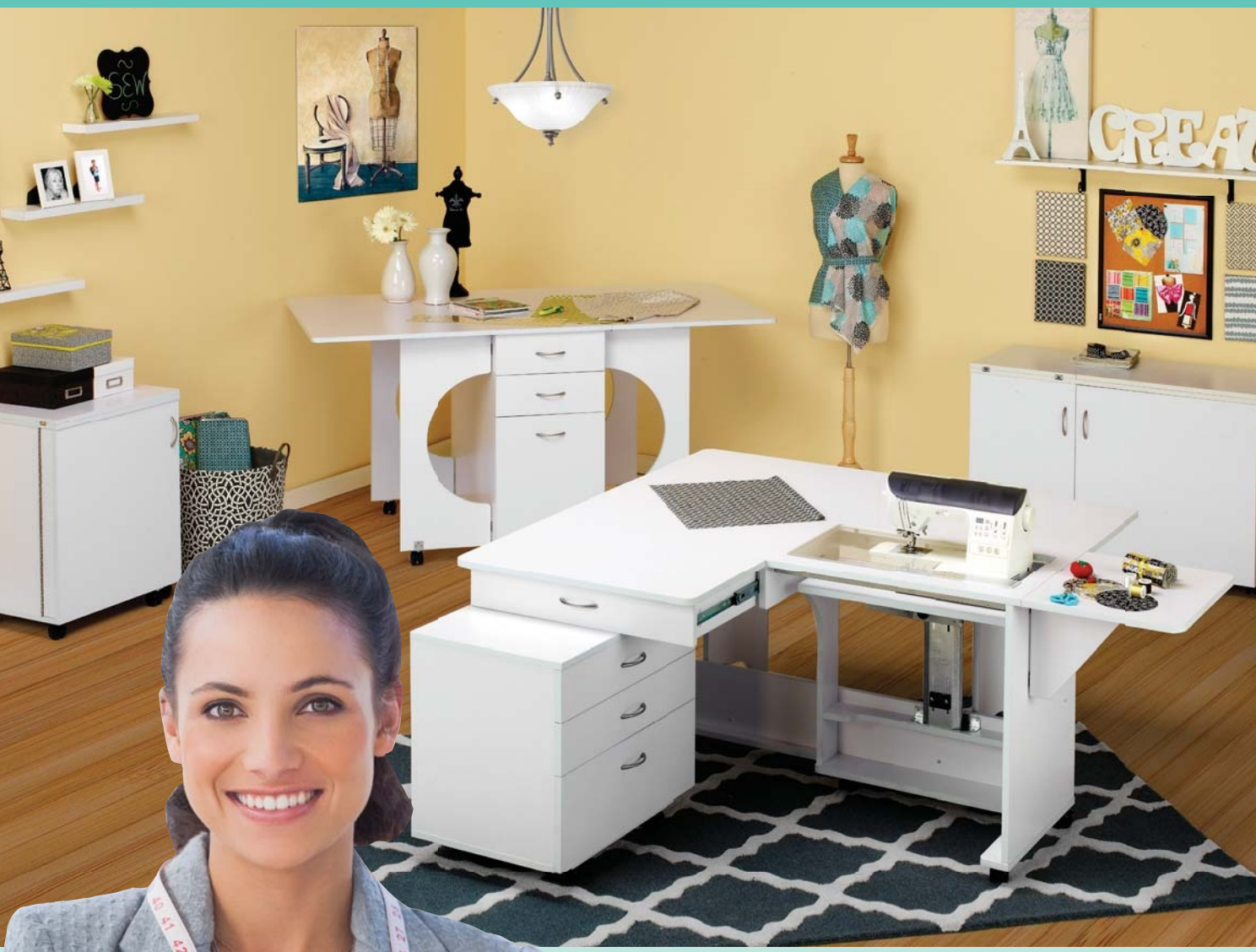


A TAILORMADE SEWING ROOM JUST FOR ME!

I was looking for affordable and functional sewing furniture for my new sewing room and I found just what I was looking for on the new Tailormade website.

Every cabinet comes fully assembled and features ample storage for all of my fabric and sewing accessories. And, with the choices of sizes and styles, I can truly design a sewing room that is tailor made for me.

TAILORMADE
Sewing Furniture

Visit the NEW website
www.tailormadecabinets.com
to find your local retailer

Turn to page 49 to learn all about our sweepstakes winner!

In the Navy Bag

BY KIM SABA

Mystery solved! To celebrate our 15th anniversary, we took our blog readers on a 6-month adventure to create this versatile embroidered purse. Read on for all the how-tos and special tips!

MATERIALS

+ 1 yard of 52″-wide duck fabric (exterior)
+ ¾ yard of cotton print fabric (interior)
+ ¾ yard of heavyweight fusible interfacing & heavyweight cut-away fusible stabilizer
+ ½ yard of lightweight fusible interfacing
+ Chalk wheel or removable fabric pencil
+ Thread: all-purpose & embroidery
+ Needles: 90/14 embroidery & 90/14 universal
+ ¼″-wide double-sided fusible web tape
+ 9″-long metal zipper
+ 11″-long metal separating zipper (or trim to size)
+ Two 9¼″ lengths of ⅜″-diameter cording
+ Six ¾″-wide D-rings
+ Two ¾″ swivel clasps
+ 45″-long, ¼″-diameter dowel
+ Embroidery design (approx. 6"x9″; see "Design.")

PREPARE

- Download and print out the In the Navy Bag pattern from cmemag.com/freebies until Dec. 31, 2016. Find the pattern after the expiration date at shopsewitall.com.
- From the duck cloth, cut one front panel, leaving an extra 1″ beyond the perimeter for hooping. Cut two upper panels (designate one as the front and one as the back), one front-zipper panel, two front-side panels, one back panel, two back-side panels, one base, two interior panels, two side panels, one strap, four zipper panels, two handles, two strap tabs, four handle tabs and four handle ends.
- From the heavyweight interfacing, cut two front-side panels, one front-zipper panel, two upper panels (designate one as the front and one as the back), one back panel, two side panels, two interior panels and two zipper panels. Trim ½″ from each front-zipper panel long edge and the two zipper panel interfacing pieces. Fuse the corresponding interfacing pieces to the duck cloth pieces, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- From the lining and mediumweight interfacing, cut two front and back linings, two side panels, one front-interior pocket, one back-interior pocket, one interior pocket and one base. Fuse the interfacing pieces to each corresponding lining piece, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Transfer all pattern markings using a chalk wheel or removable fabric pencil.

EMBROIDER

- Download the In the Navy Bag Front Panel embroidery design from cmemag.com/freebies. Load the design into the embroidery machine.
- Thread the needle and bobbin with matching embroidery thread. Fuse a piece of cut-away stabilizer to the front-panel wrong side, centering the fabric within the stabilizer. Hoop the stabilizer and fabric as one, centering the stabilizer within the hoop.
- Embroider the design. Remove the hoop from the machine and the stabilizer from the hoop. Center the front-panel pattern over the embroidery design. Trim the panel perimeter. Designate one panel long edge as the upper edge.

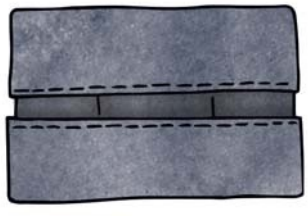
CONSTRUCT

Use ½″ seam allowances unless otherwise noted.

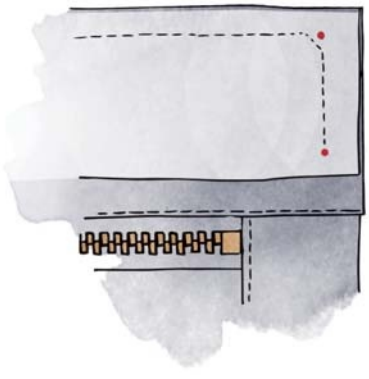
- With right sides together, stitch the front-zipper panel lower edge to the front-panel upper edge. Trim the seam allowance to ¼″. Press open the seam. Topstitch the front-zipper panel ⅛″ from the seamline.
- With right sides together, pin the left zipper tape along the front-panel upper edge, aligning the zipper stop ½″ from the panel right edge and the zipper pull ½″ from the panel left edge.
- Position the front-interior pocket wrong side up over the front-panel right side, aligning the pocket upper edge with the left zipper tape edge, making sure the pocket sides align with the front-panel side; pin.
- Stitch ¼″ from the zipper edge, securing the front panel, zipper and pocket together. Press the seam allowance toward the front panel. Fold the pocket toward the front panel with wrong sides together; press.
- Topstitch the front-zipper panel ⅛″ from the zipper. Position the back-interior pocket wrong side up over the front-interior pocket right side, aligning the right zipper tape with the back-interior pocket upper edge; pin. Baste ⅛″ from the right zipper-tape edge. Baste ⅛″ along the front panel lower edge to secure all three fabric layers.
- With right sides together, align one front-side panel long edge with the front-panel right edge; pin, and then stitch. Press the seam allowance toward the side panel. Topstitch the front-side panel ⅛″ from the seamline. Repeat to attach

A

B



C



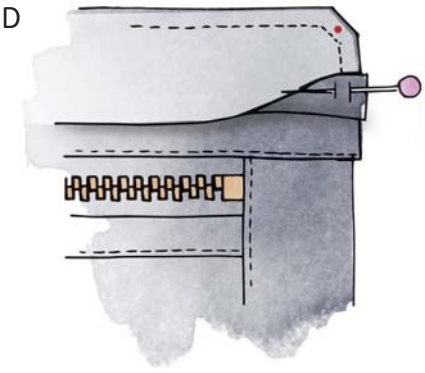
the remaining side panel to the front-panel left edge **(A).**

- With right sides together, align the upper-front panel with the right zipper tape edge; pin. Stitch using a ¼" seam allowance. Press the seam allowance toward the upper panel. Topstitch the upper-front panel ⅛" from the seamline.
- Stitch the back-side panels to the back-panel short edges with right sides together. Press the seam allowances toward the side panels. Topstitch each side panel ⅛" from the seamline.
- Stitch the upper-back panel to the back-panel upper edge with right sides together. Press the seam allowance toward the upper panel. Topstitch the upper-back panel ⅛" from the seamline.
- Position one handle tab wrong side up on a flat work surface. Place fusible web tape on each tab short edge; fuse following the manufacturer's instructions. Remove the paper backing. Fold each short edge ¼" toward the wrong side; press.
- Place fusible web tape on each remaining raw edge; fuse. Fold each raw edge toward the wrong side to meet in the tab center; press **(B).**
- Fold the tab in half widthwise with wrong sides together; press. Insert one D-ring through the tab, and align the tab ends. Hand baste close to the D-ring.
- Position the front panel right side up on a flat work surface. Align the handle tab upper edge with one handle placement line; pin, and then hand baste. Topstitch ⅛" from the tab short end, back stitching over the entire tab for extra security. Remove the handle

tab basting stitches. Repeat to create and baste the remaining three handle tabs to the front and back panel.

- With right sides together, position the interior panel on the upper-front panel upper edge; pin. Stitch the interior panel short end, beginning at the lower dot, and pivoting just before the upper dot diagonally for two stitches. Continue stitching the long edge, and repeat to pivot at the right upper dot. End the stitching at the right lower dot **(C).**
- Trim the interior-panel seam allowance to ⅛" and the front seam allowance to ¼" on the upper edge. Trim the corners. Repeat to stitch the remaining interior panel to the upper-back panel.
- With right sides together, stitch the back-panel lower edge to one base long edge. Press the seam allowance toward the base. Repeat to stitch the opposite base long edge to the front lower edge. Topstitch the base ⅛" from each seamline.
- Finger-press the front interior-panel lower edge ½" toward the wrong side; pin **(D).**
- Position one side long edge and front right edge with right sides together, aligning the side-panel upper dot with the interior band folded edge; pin **(E).**
- Stitch, beginning at the side upper-edge dot, making sure to not catch the interior panel in the stitching. End the stitching with the needle in the down position at the lower edge dot. Using small sharp scissors, cut diagonally into just the side panel up to, but not through, the corner at the dot.
- Lift the presser foot and pivot the side panel to align the side lower edge with the base short edge. Continue stitching the side panel to the base and the back panel, pivoting at the opposite side-panel dot and ending at the side-panel upper-edge dot **(F).**
- Press seam allowance toward the side panel. Repeat to stitch the remaining side panel to the left bag edge.
- Trim the interior panel seam allowance to ¼" on each short end and trim the corners. Turn the back interior panel right side out, pushing out the corners using a point turner. Press flat. Repeat for the front interior panel.
- Press one zipper-panel long edge ½" toward the wrong side. Press each short end ½" toward the wrong side. Repeat to press the remaining zipper panels.
- Position one interfaced zipper panel and one non-interfaced zipper panel with wrong sides together, making sure the folded long and short ends are aligned. Baste using a 1/4" seam allowance along the short and long folded edges. Designate the zipper panel with the interfacing as the upper zipper panel. Repeat to create a second zipper panel.
- Center one zipper panel over the front interior panel long edge, aligning the upper zipper panel with the interior panel; pin. Baste using a ¼" seam allowance **(G).** Repeat to baste the remaining zipper panel to the back interior band. Turn the bag right side out.
- Position the back-lining panel right side up on a flat work surface. Fold the interior pocket in half widthwise with right sides together, press and then unfold. With right sides together, position the pocket over the back-lining panel, aligning the pocket fold-line with the lower pocket line on the back-lining panel; pin.

D



E

F

G

H

I

- Stitch along the rectangle on the back-lining panel wrong side.
- Position the back-lining panel right side up on a flat work surface. Using small sharp scissors, cut through the rectangle center lengthwise, ending ¼" from the short ends. Cut diagonally from the line end up to, but not through, the rectangle corners.
- Push the pocket through the opening toward the back lining wrong side. Pull the small triangle on the sides to straighten the rectangle. Press the pocket flat **(H).**
- Position the back lining wrong side up on a flat work surface. Create a ⅜"-wide upward-facing pleat on the pocket to close the rectangle. Machine baste just the folded edge, and then whipstitch the fold to the pocket **(I).**
- Position the back-lining panel right side up. Fold the lower edge toward the upper edge, exposing the lower seam allowance. Stitch through the seam allowance as close as possible to the previous stitching line **(J).**
- Position the pocket wrong side up. With right sides together, fold the pocket in half widthwise, aligning all the edges; pin. Fold back the lining panel and stitch from the pocket folded upper edge around the perimeter and ending at the opposite folded edge, making sure to stitch over the small triangle stitching line, but not catching the back-lining panel in the stitching **(K).** Remove the basting stitches from the pocket.
- With right sides together, stitch the front lining lower edge to the base lining long edge. Press the seam allowances toward the base. Repeat to stitch the back lining lower edge to the opposite base long edge, but leave a 8"-long centered opening for turning.
- Stitch the side lining panels to the front, back and base using the same technique you used for the exterior side panels.
- Press one strap tab in half lengthwise

For an additional embellishment, create a quick and easy monogrammed zipper fob for the front pocket.

MATERIALS

+ ½" swivel clasp
+ 2½"x6½" scrap of leather or faux leather
+ Mediumweight tear-away stabilizer
+ Embroidery design letters (no taller than ¼")

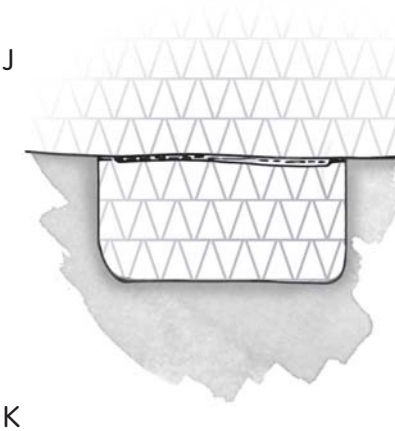
MAKE IT FOB-ULOUS

- Hoop three layers of tear-away stabilizer. Center the leather scrap right side up over the stabilizer; secure the perimeter with painter's tape.
- Choose two initials on the embroidery machine screen. Rotate each letter 90° and position the surname letter near the screen lower-edge center. Position the first-name letter above the surname, making sure they're properly aligned.
- Thread the machine needle and bobbin with matching 40wt. embroidery thread. Place the hoop onto the machine. Embroider the design.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and stabilizer from the hoop. Trim any jump threads. Carefully tear away the stabilizer from the design perimeter. Trim the leather according to the zipper fob pattern. Insert one fob short end through the swivel clasp and align the short ends. Topstitch the fob near the swivel clasp bar. Attach the clasp to the pocket zipper.

with wrong sides together; unfold. Fold each long edge toward the wrong side to meet at the center fold-line; press. Repeat to fold the remaining strap tab.

- Fold the tab in half widthwise with wrong sides together; press. Insert the tab through a D-ring, aligning the short ends with the wrong sides together. Center one strap tab over one side-panel upper edge, aligning the strap short ends with the side panel raw edge. Hand baste ¼" from the short ends. Repeat to create the remaining strap tab.
- Fold the upper-back panel and interior panel down over the panel right side. Whipstitch the side panel to the upper panel at each corner **(K).**
- Place the lining over the exterior with right sides together, aligning the upper edge and seamlines; pin, and then stitch.
- Remove the zipper panel and strap tab basting stitches. Press the seam allowance toward the lining, and then press open the zipper panel and front panel seam allowances. Turn the bag right side out though the lining opening. Insert your machine's free arm through the lining opening and understitch the lining.
- Press the zipper panels toward the lining. Install a zipper foot onto the machine. Topstitch the zipper panel to the lining ⅛" from interior panel/zipper panel seamline **(L).** Repeat to stitch the opposite zipper panel.
- Topstitch the upper-front panel, beginning at one short end as close to the side panel as possible. End at the opposite short end.
- Slipstitch the lining opening closed. Push the lining into the bag with wrong sides together, favoring the bag upper edge toward the lining.
- Remove the basting holding the two front zipper panels together. Insert the left zipper tape in between the front zipper panels, aligning the zipper end with the right panel short end seam allowance and the zipper teeth ⅛" from the panel long edge. Align the zipper upper edge in the left zipper panel short end, folding back the zipper frayed short end onto

J



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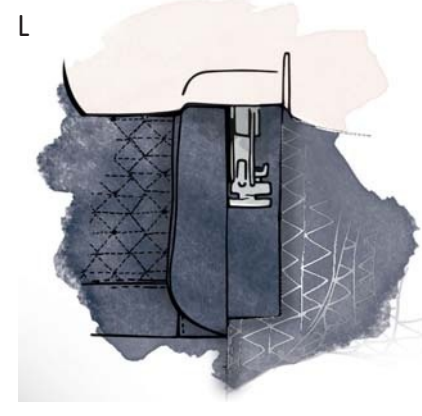

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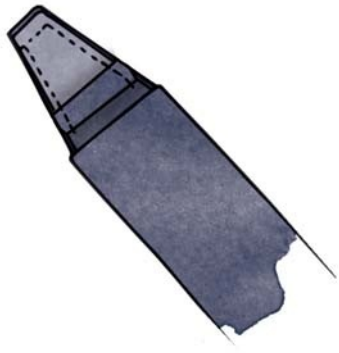

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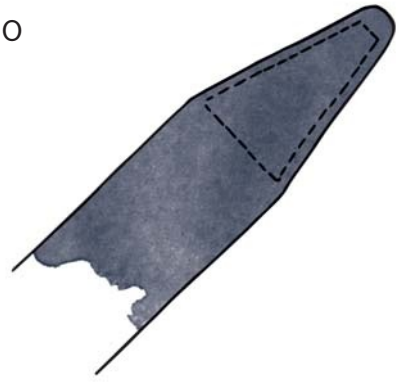
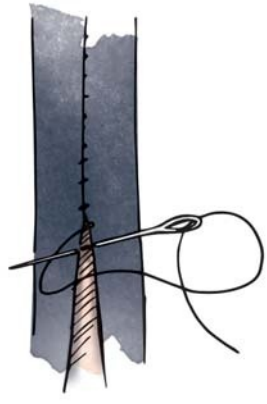


P



itself and into the panel seam allowance. Hand baste to secure **(M).**

- Align the upper and lower zipper panel with wrong sides together; hand baste ¼" from the folded edge. Topstitch the zipper panel ⅛" from the folded long edge. Repeat to stitch the right zipper tape to the back zipper panel.
- Fold one handle-end upper edge ½" toward the wrong side; press. Mark a ¼" seam allowance on the side and lower edges.
- With right sides together, position one handle end over one handle short edge; pin. Stitch the perimeter of the handle end using a ¼" seam allowance and pivoting at each corner. Repeat to stitch the remaining handle end to the opposite handle short edge **(N).**
- Trim the seam allowance to ⅛" and trim the corners. Turn the handle end right side out using a chopstick; press flat. Edgestitch the handle end **(O).**
- Press each handle long edge ½" toward the wrong side. Center one cording length over the handle wrong side, aligning the end with the handle-end folded edge. Fold the handle in half lengthwise, enclosing the cording within handle and aligning the folded long edges; pin. Whipstitch to secure the handle long edges **(P).** Repeat to construct the remaining handle.
- Insert one handle end into one D-ring on the bag front and fold ¾" with wrong sides together; pin. Hand baste ½" from the short end. Topstitch ½" from the fold. Repeat to stitch the opposite handle end into the opposite bag front D-ring, making sure the handle isn't twisted. Repeat for the back handle.
- Fold the strap in half lengthwise with right sides together; pin. Stitch one strap short end and the long edge using a ¼" seam allowance. Trim the seam allowance to ⅛". Turn the strap right side out using a long dowel.
- Fold each strap short end ¼" toward the wrong side; press. Press the strap flat. Topstitch the strap perimeter.
- Insert one strap end into a swivel clasp and fold the strap end 1"; pin. Topstitch ⅛" from the short end. Repeat to attach the opposite strap short end to the remaining clasp, making sure the strap isn't twisted. Attach the clasps to the strap D-rings.
- To make a zipper pull for the purse zipper, cut a 1"x5" strip of leather or faux leather using the template. Fold the strip in half widthwise, then topstitch the leather ⅛" from the folded short end. Open a jump ring slightly, and then insert the ring through the folded short end.
- Insert one ring open end through the purse zipper, and then squeeze the ring to close. Move the leather to cover the ring opening.

DESIGN
Navy Bag Front Panel Embroidery Design, *Creative Machine Embroidery*; cmemag.com/freebies.

SOURCE
Big Duck Canvas Warehouse provided the 15-ounce navy blue duck fabric: bigduckcanvas.com.

CREATIVE MACHINE EMBROIDERY *is celebrating* 15 YEARS!

Find the Mystery Bag embroidery design collection at shopsewitall.com.

Thank you!

Thank you for spending 15 years with CME!

Thank you the wonderful sponsors of the Mystery Bag Sew-Along, who provided over $15,000 worth of prizes to our lucky winner!

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A NOTE FROM OUR WINNER GLADYS STANLEY!

First of all, let me start by saying that I was very optimistic about winning this prize. Second, I'm so glad I caught the e-mail before it was too late. Third, I want to thank all of the sponsors of the giveaway for all of the wonderful prizes donated. I've been arriving home and it feels like Christmas every day I open my door and another box is delivered.

My husband and I live in Denison, Texas, and I have two sons and a daughter-in-law. I've been sewing since I was 13 years old, and I started embroidering about 12 years ago and fell in love the first time I saw what an embroidery machine could do. I'm always sewing and embroidering gifts for family and friends. In a world where everything is so commercialized, I'm glad to be able to make something personalized. I belong to a local sewing group of wonderful ladies that are very inspiring and motivating with projects they bring to class.

I'm so excited to have won. I'm always entering contests here and there but never in my life have I won such a wonderful giveaway as this. I love reading *Creative Machine Embroidery* magazine and love all the free designs and projects you give away.

Love, Gladys

Garland Greeting

BY MILINDA JAY STEPHENSON

Use embroidery and appliqué to create charming burlap ornaments to string into a festive holiday garland. Discover a range of options to make a version that's uniquely yours.

Download the Garland Greeting star design from cmemag.com/freebies until Dec. 31, 2016. Find the design after the expiration, and the rest of the collection, at shopsewitall.com.

A

MATERIALS

+ Seven 8″ squares each of burlap & cotton fabric
+ Five 4″ squares of cotton (lettering)
+ Embroidery thread
+ Lightweight water-soluble stabilizer
+ Twine
+ 7 miniature clothespins
+ Garland Greeting embroidery designs (See "Designs.")

STAR ORNAMENTS

- Download the Garland Greeting star embroidery design from cmemag.com/freebies. Load the design onto the embroidery machine.
- Hoop one burlap square with stabilizer and place the hoop into the machine.
- Embroider step one to embroider the star.
- Remove the hoop from the machine. Center one fabric backing square wrong side up over the star. Embroider step two to create the ornament outline.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Trim ¼″ beyond the stitching line **(A).** Clip the curves.
- To prevent the burlap from fraying, enclose the edges in clear tape or treat them with seam sealant.
- Turn the ornament right side out. Stitch the opening closed using a machine or hand stitch.
- Repeat to make a second star ornament.

PRECISE PRECUT

If you have a digital cutter, precut the letters using the image files included with the Garland Greeting design collection. Hoop only the burlap and stabilizer, and then embroider step one to create a placement line. Position the letter within the line, and then embroider step two to secure and step three to appliqué.

If you don't have a digital cutter, precut the letters by printing a template of each one and tracing the template onto the fabric. The collection includes an image file of each letter for this purpose. Cut out the letters, and then follow the steps on this page to place, secure and appliqué.

LETTER ORNAMENTS

- Load the Garland Greeting "P" ornament design onto the machine.
- Stack one square of lettering fabric on top of one burlap square with right sides facing up and hoop them together with the stabilizer. Place the hoop onto the machine and stitch step one to secure the fabric.
- Remove the hoop from the machine, but leave the fabric in the hoop. Carefully cut away the cotton fabric outside of and as close to the stitching line as possible, being careful not to cut the burlap.
- Re-place the hoop in the machine. Embroider steps two and three to reinforce and appliqué the letter.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and follow the steps on page 51 to complete the ornament.
- Repeat to create each letter to spell the word "PEACE."

Tip

Create extra ornaments in the fabric of your choice. Hoop two pieces of fabric right sides together with stabilizer. Load the star design, but stitch only the second step. Trim, turn and close.

- To construct the garland, cut a piece of twine to the desired length. Use clothespins to secure the ornaments to the twine at equal intervals.

DESIGNS

P, E, A, C and star ornament designs: *CME*, Garland Greeting Embroidery Collection: shopsewitall.com.

SOURCES

Artistic Edge provided the appliqué lettering: janomespecials.com/edge.

Janome provided the Janome Horizon 15000 and Digitizer MBX V4.5 used to make this project: janome.com.

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Endless *Possibilities*

BY RAMONA BAIRD

Embroidery software makes it possible to create perfect endless embroidery without the traditional registration marks. Learn a professional technique to achieve flawless endless embroidery that's suitable for any design type.

New Look 6390

TRADITIONAL TECHNIQUES

When using traditional registration marks for endless embroidery, a large design is split into multiple hoopings **(A).** The first design section is stitched, and then a + or an X registration mark is stitched at each corner to denote the alignment point for the next design section **(B).**

The next design section is loaded onto the machine, and then the machine needle is positioned to the first set of alignment marks. This method is inaccurate for many reasons: alignment threads may slip out of the fabric, the fabric could stretch and distort or the hooping may not be absolutely precise.

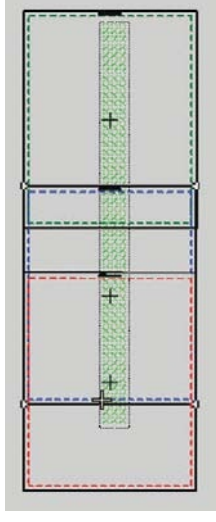
ACCURATE ENDLESS EMBROIDERY

Most designs have a center start point, which is noted as the crosshairs on a printed template. A center start point is an alignment point at the design center. For the ease of users across a vast market and with different experience levels, it's a perfect solution for all designs to begin stitching in the center. The design center point is aligned to the center position on the hooped fabric. When the machine begins stitching, the needle jumps from the center position to the first stitch in the design. Typically, the design doesn't begin at the center point. Instead, the first stitch is elsewhere on the design, meaning that the start point is actually an alignment point. Alignment points are easily moved anywhere on the design or an area on the hooped fabric. This feature in the software allows for precise endless embroidery.

Practice the endless embroidery technique with a very simple design. For example, choose a cross-stitch design in a linear shape and embroider a basic shirt placket.

- Select the largest hoop possible for easier alignments and fewer hoopings.
- Open a new page in the embroidery software and save the file as "Full Design." Measure the shirt placket. Draw the placket dimensions, excluding seam allowances, as an outline design on the new page. The placket outline design is not stitched in the final design but only used for placement.
- Place the cross-stitch design over the shirt placket outline to fill one hooping. Position the cross-stitch design upper edge at the placket-outline upper edge **(C).** Zoom into the placket upper edge to make sure the cross-stitch design upper edge is perfectly aligned. If needed, turn on the stitch points to check for accuracy.
- Copy the first design section and align it below the first. Change the design section colors to help aid in alignment. After positioning all the designs, change the design colors to one single color. Zoom in on the second design to make sure the upper edge is aligned exactly at the first-design lower edge. If needed, turn on the stitch points to check for accuracy and fine-tune the alignment

A



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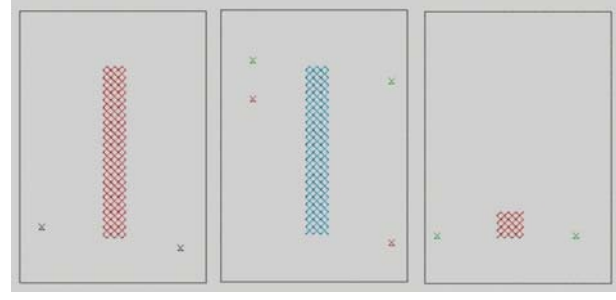

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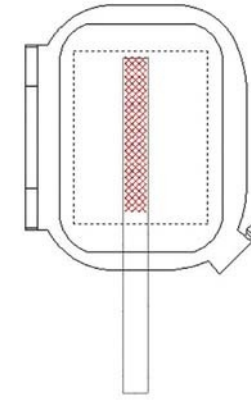
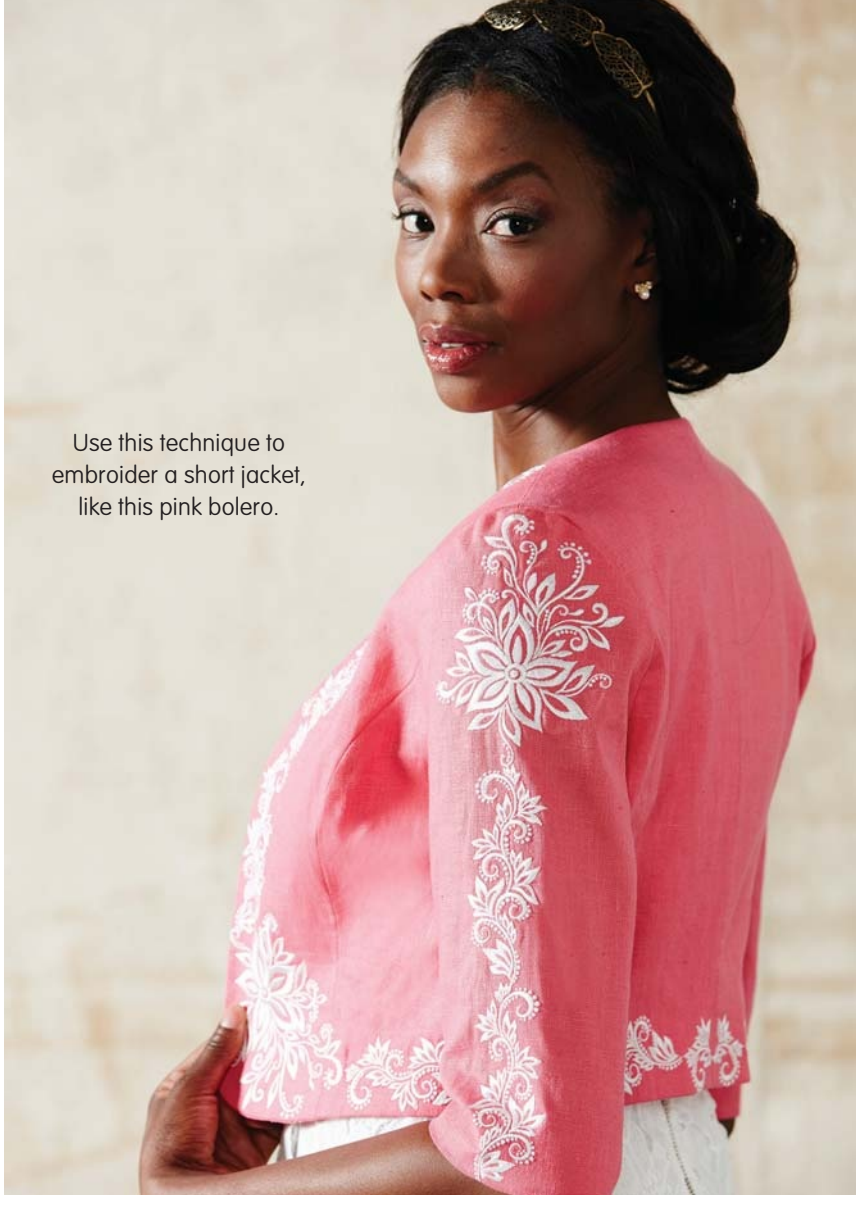




Use this technique to embroider a short jacket, like this pink bolero.

Tip

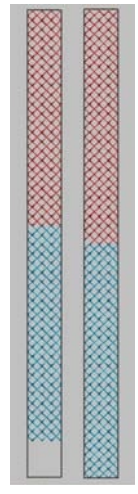
Always test-stitch the designs to choose the proper stabilizer and thread for the fabric and design selected. If needed, fuse lightweight tricot knit interfacing to the fabric wrong side for extra support.

with the keyboard arrows to exactly match the stitch points **(D).**

- Choose from two methods to fill a small remaining section on the placket outline. Choosing the correct method depends on the design being used and the look desired. One option is to group the two designs already placed and lengthen the grouped design to fill the remaining placket space. However, this elongates the design elements **(E).** The second option is to copy and paste the first design, position it under the second design as done in the previous instructions, and then remove the stitches outside the placket outline **(F).** For the featured design, the second option was used to maintain the original design proportions.
- Save the full design as "File 1"; this will be the first design file to stitch. Determine how much of the design

D

E



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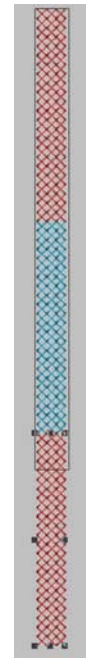

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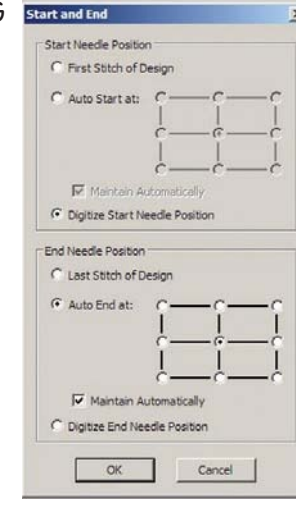

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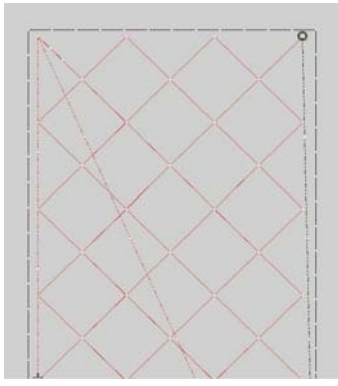

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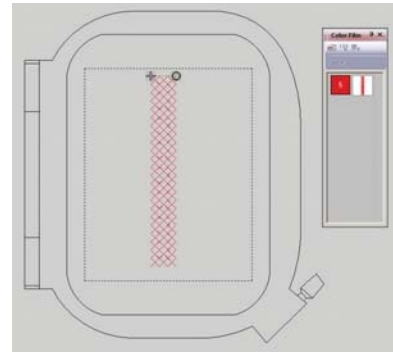

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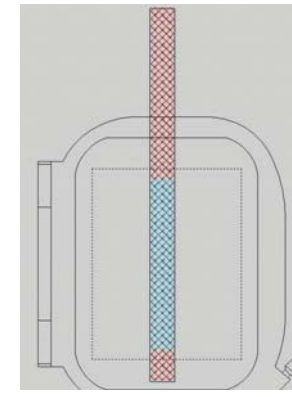

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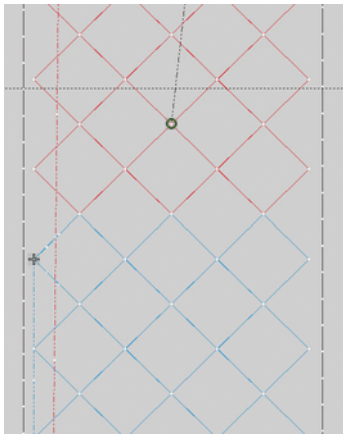

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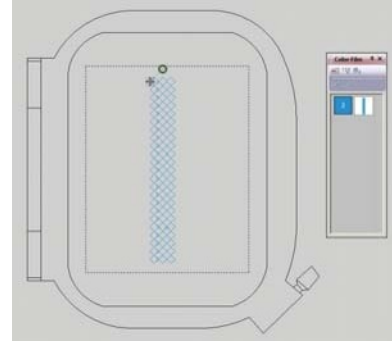

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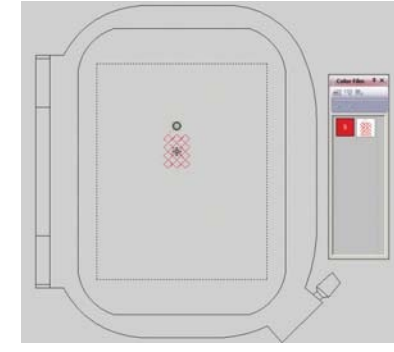
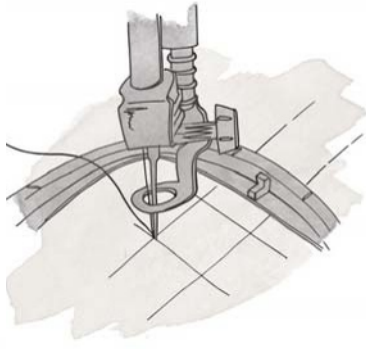


fits into the hoop. Turn on the stitch points, open the Auto Start/End window, and then choose Digitize Start Needle Position **(G).**

- Read the prompt at the lower left of the computer screen that says Enter Start Point. The first cross-stitch design needs to be aligned at the upper-right shirt corner at the neckline. Click on the upper-right stitch point, moving the alignment point from the center to that stitch point **(H).** During stitching, the upper-placket fabric is hooped and the machine needle will align at that point at the upper-center neckline seamline.
- Remove the outline and second and third designs, leaving only the upper section for stitching **(I).** Save the file, and then close it.
- Open the Full Design and save it as "File 2." Position the second design into the hoop outline and include a small portion of the first-design lower edge to be used for an alignment point **(J).**
- Open the Start/End window and place the alignment point onto a center stitch point at the first-design lower edge **(K).** At the machine, only the first-design alignment point is included in the second hooping and the needle is positioned exactly at the stitch point. The needle will then jump from the alignment point to begin stitching the second design.
- Remove the outline and the first and third designs **(L).** Save the file, and then close it.
- Open the Full Design and save it as "File 3." Position the third design into the hoop outline and include a small portion of the second-design lower edge. Open the Start/End window and place the alignment point onto a center stitch point at the second-design lower edge. Remove the outline and first and second designs **(M).** Save the file, and then close it.
- Load all three files onto the machine.
- From the project fabric, cut the shirt front larger than the finished pattern piece to allow for accurate hooping. Trace the pattern piece center front, seamlines and any other lines that aid in design alignment.
- Position a piece of stabilizer right side up on a flat work surface. Spray with temporary adhesive, and then position the fabric over the stabilizer; finger-press to secure. Hoop the fabric,

N



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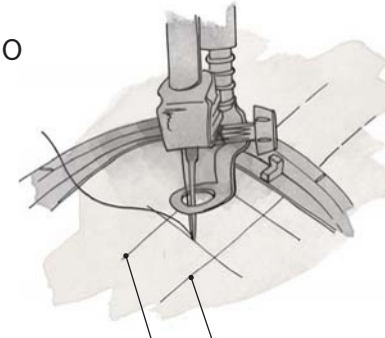
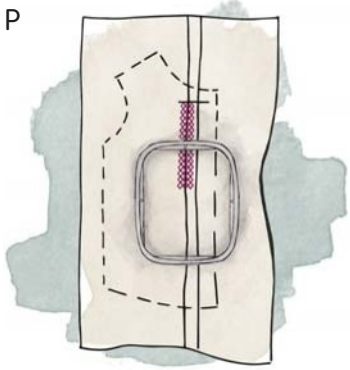


centering the first design area within the hoop. The shirt center-front line should be aligned vertically within the hoop.

- Open File 1 on the machine, and then place the hoop onto the machine. To make sure the fabric is perfectly aligned in the hoop, position the needle at the upper center-front line end point **(N).** Use the arrow key on the machine screen to trace the center-front line down along the entire hoop. Lower the needle to make sure it's aligned with the center-front line. If the position is off, remove the hoop from the machine and re-hoop the fabric until perfectly aligned.
- On the machine screen, the design starting point is positioned at the upper-right design corner according to the position set in the software. Align the needle to this position on the fabric **(O).** Embroider the design.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Don't remove the stabilizer.
- Hoop the fabric, centering the second-design area within the hoop. The shirt center-front line should be aligned vertically within the hoop **(P).**
- Open File 2 on the machine. Repeat the previous steps to make sure the fabric is perfectly aligned within the hoop. Position the needle at the starting point selected in the software, making sure it aligns with the selected stitch point on the first-design **(Q).** Begin stitching; the needle jumps from the starting point to the first stitch of the second design. Embroider the design.
- Repeat to embroider the third design.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Remove the stabilizer. Press the fabric flat **(R).** Cut out the shirt front along the cutting lines. Construct, following the pattern guidesheet.

P



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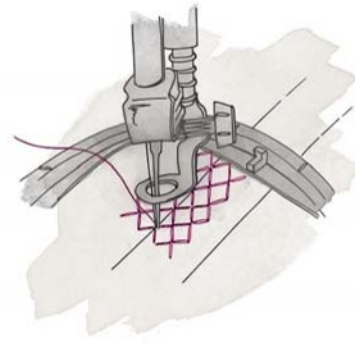
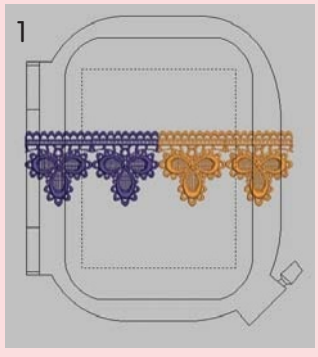


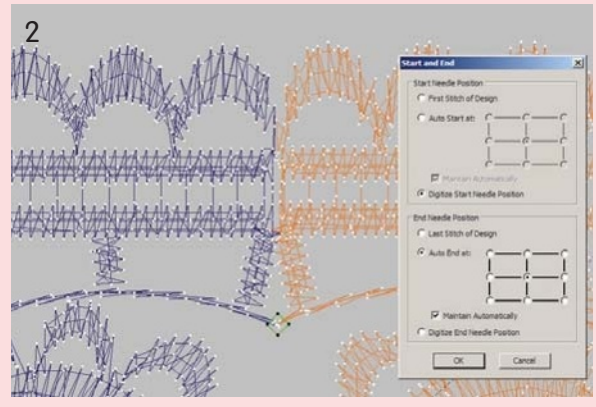
R

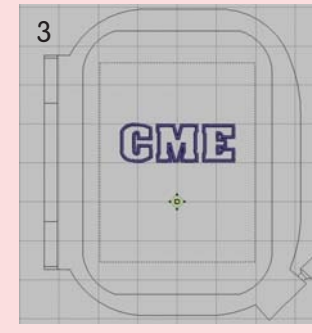
ENDLESS DESIGN TYPES

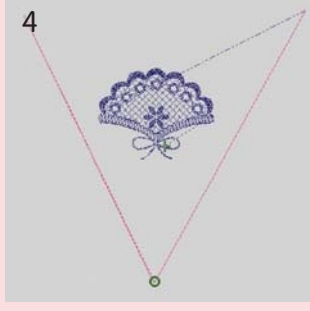
Discover how to use this endless embroidery technique for any embroidery design type.

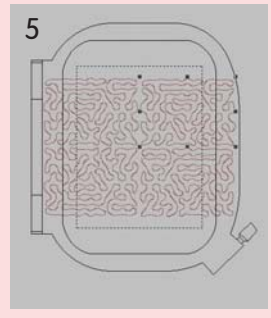
- Use a lace design around a jacket and sleeve lower edge. Group the designs and align as many designs into one hooping as possible. Choose a start point for the first design and save it as a new design. Copy and paste the design and align it with the previous section **(1).** Zoom into the design and choose a stitch point on the first section for the alignment **(2).** The point can be anywhere that helps you to align the design during hoopings, but make sure the stitch point is visible as an actual stitch penetration in the fabric where the machine needle can be sunk for alignment. Remove all the excess designs and stitching, and then save the file. Repeat for the entire design.
- Place a monogram 1" above a shirt pocket. Open the monogram design in software, and then set the grid at 1" increments. Center the alignment point 1" below the monogram. Hoop the pocket upper edge squarely in the hoop. The alignment point is at the pocket center upper edge, and then the needle jumps from that point to begin stitching the monogram **(3).**
- Align a small design on a collar point or on a napkin corner at an angle. Set the alignment point at the collar or napkin corner **(4).**
- Add text to an already completed design. Open the original design, and then save as a new file. Add text, choosing a position on the original design for the alignment point. Remove the original design, and then save the file. Hoop the fabric, making sure to include a portion of the original design in the hooping to set the alignment point.
- Use the technique for a large stippled quilt block. Draw the block outline in software, and then save the file. Open the stippled design and fill the outline. Set the alignment point in the block center. Save each section as a new file with the same center alignment point **(5).** Fold the quilt block fabric in half lengthwise and widthwise to find the center point. To embroider each section, hoop the block, making sure the center point is included in the hooping and the alignment point is aligned to the fabric center point **(6).**
- Scan garment pattern pieces at actual size and use as an artwork backdrop to precisely place embroidery design, especially around curves **(7).**

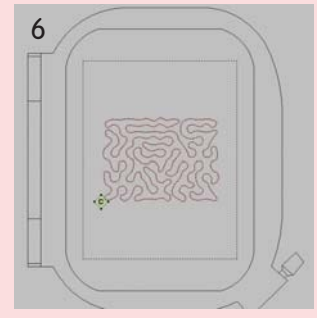


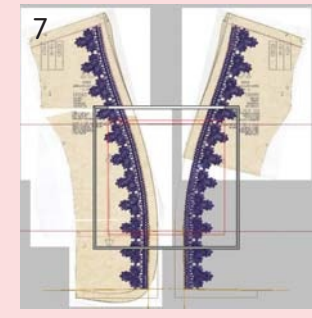












Where the Heart is

BY KATHY DURMON

Stitch unique personalized décor just in time for the holidays. Framed or as a set of sweet ornaments, old maps are a great canvas for customized gifts.

EMBROIDERING MAPS is quite similar to embroidering on fabric. To get started, choose a section of the map you wish to showcase. Pay particular attention to the background colors for the purposes of thread selection. Most maps can be ironed if needed, but it's best to test first and use a press cloth to protect the ironing surface. For very wrinkled maps, try light starch before you press.

Designs for map embroidery should be fairly dense. It's particularly helpful if the designs feature an outline as the final step. The outline helps to cover where the needle perforates the paper. Line art and designs that don't have a very wide satin or fill stitch will not stitch well on paper, regardless of the amount or type of stabilizer used. You'll also need to use the proper stabilizers to ensure professional results.

Framed Travel Map

MATERIALS

+ State map or outdated highway map
+ Fusible nylon knit tricot
+ Lightweight double-sided fusible web
+ White cotton fabric
+ Paper-backed adhesive stabilizer
+ 8½"x11" frame
+ Home and heart-themed embroidery designs (approximately 4"x7" and 1" square; see "Designs")

PREPARE

- Cut the map to fit the frame, centering the featured town, landmark or other location.
- Fuse the nylon knit tricot to the map wrong side, following the manufacturer's instructions. Fuse a rectangle of double-sided fusible web to the tricot, and then fuse a rectangle of white cotton fabric to the fusible web.

EMBROIDER

- Hoop the stabilizer with the paper backing facing up. Score the paper inside the hoop inner ring; tear away the paper. Center the fused map inside the hoop, sticking it to the stabilizer.
- Download the Home Sweet Home and the Where the Heart Is heart embroidery designs from cmemag.com/freebies for free until Dec. 31, 2016. Find the designs at shopsewitall.com after the expiration date. Load the designs onto the machine.
- Center the text design in the hoop; embroider the design.
- Position the heart to one side over a featured location; embroider the design.
- Unhoop the map, leaving all stabilizer intact. Cut as much paper-backed stabilizer away from the design perimeter along the map wrong side, being careful not to cut through the map. Insert the map into the frame.

Simple Ball Ornaments

Make a set of coordinating ornaments for custom holiday décor.

MATERIALS

Supplies listed are enough to make one 4"x4½" ornament.

+ State map or outdated highway map
+ Fusible nylon knit tricot
+ Lightweight double-sided fusible web
+ Craft felt
+ Cotton fabric scraps (gold & white)
+ Embroidery thread: 40-wt. in coordinating colors & 60-wt. bobbin
+ Mediumweight water-soluble stabilizer
+ Glue stick
+ Appliqué scissors
+ Roman shades hooked pin
+ Where the Heart Is Ornament embroidery design (See "Designs.")

PREPARE

- From the fusible nylon knit tricot, fusible web and white cotton fabric, cut one 5" square each.
- From the craft felt, cut one 5"x6" rectangle.
- From the gold cotton fabric, cut one 2" square.
- Cut the map to fit inside the hoop, centering the featured town, landmark or desired location.
- Fuse the nylon knit tricot to the map wrong side. Fuse a rectangle of double-sided fusible web to the tricot, and then fuse a rectangle of white cotton fabric to the fusible web.

EMBROIDER

- Download the Where the Heart Is Ornament embroidery design from cmemag.com/freebies. Load the design onto the machine.
- Hoop the stabilizer.
- Embroider step one, which is the ornament topper placement stitch.
- Center the gold fabric square over the placement stitching.
- Embroider the tacking stitch, and then trim the fabric close to the stitching using appliqué scissors. Embroider the fill design for the ornament topper.
- Embroider the next step, which is the placement line for the ornament ball.
- Center the fused map over the placement line. Embroider the tacking stitch.
- Embroider the heart design at the desired location. Trim the map.
- On the hoop wrong side, place craft felt over the entire ornament ball and topper area. Secure the felt with the glue stick.
- Stitch the tack-down stitch and trim the felt.
- Stitch the satin stitch to finish the edges.
- Trim away the stabilizer, using a wet cotton swab tip to remove the excess.
- Hook the roman shade pin into the felt backing.

DESIGNS

Home, Sweet Home, Heart and Ornament Design: shopsewitall.com.

It's All in the Details

Introducing Two New Decorative Threads from Madeira

New Madeira Frosted Matt Thread

The world's first truly matte thread, the new Madeira Frosted Matt offers more than 100,000 stitches of stand-out color on each 550-yard spool. Vibrant and smooth, Frosted Matt is ideal for crisp decorative stitching and fine lettering, where the intensity of each color can truly pop.

Frosted Matt's special 40-weight polyester construction with 4% ceramic core means it's both strong and fade-resistant. That means its color remains true, even after bleaching, sun exposure and multiple washings. Choose from 40 brilliant shades, including neons, for the perfect finishing accents.

New Madeira Decora No. 12 Thread

Decora No. 12 Thread to brings extraordinary texture and vibrant color to your designs. This 12 weight, 300 meter spools is made of 100% viscose, creates shining decorative stitching on serging, quilting and embroidery projects with a high sheen for stunning embellishments.

Decora No. 12 Thread is suitable for sewing, sergers and embroidery machines. Décor No. 12 will light up your creativity with color and quality that puts the "wow" into your projects!

Look for all of these decorative thread options at:

color your life
MADEIRA

www.sewingandcraftclub.com

Holly Jolly Cuff

BY SUE O'VERY

Stitch a pretty in-the-hoop scarf cuff to corral your neckwear and add a subtle touch of holiday cheer. Play around with different ways to wear it—create a signature look or change it up for a new look every day!

MATERIALS

+ 8″ square each of cream wool felt & green wool felt
+ 5″ square each of cream wool felt & green wool felt
+ 3″ square of red wool felt
+ ½″ white resin snap
+ Snap setting tool
+ 4x4 hoop or larger
+ Embroidery thread: tan, green & red
+ Embroidery tape (See "Source.")
+ Fabric glue
+ Hot fix crystals & setting tool (optional)

PREPARE

- Download the Holly Jolly Scarf Cuff embroidery designs from cmemag.com/freebies until Dec. 31, 2016. Find the design at sueoverydesigns.com after the expiration date.
- Load the cuff design onto the machine. Thread the needle and bobbin with tan thread.
- Hoop the 8″ cream felt square with the wrong side up. Center the 5″ cream felt square in the hoop; secure using tape.

EMBROIDER

- Place the hoop into the machine and embroider the first thread color, which is the cuff outline and snap placement markers. Remove the hoop from the machine and the felt from the hoop. Cut ⅛″ beyond the outside running stitch **(A).**
- Attach the snaps directly over the snap placement stitches. Make sure that the working side of the snaps are on different sides of the cuff **(B).**
- Load the holly design onto the machine and thread the machine with green thread.
- Hoop the large green wool felt square. Place the hoop onto the machine; embroider step one to create the holly leaves.
- Thread the machine with red thread. Embroider step two to create a placement line for the berries. Remove the hoop from the machine.
- Place the red felt right side up over the placement line; secure using tape. Re-place the hoop onto the machine; embroider step three, which is the berry outline and tacking stitches. Remove the hoop from the machine, but leave the felt in the hoop.
- Carefully cut 1/16″ beyond the berry outline stitch **(C).**
- Re-place the hoop onto the machine and embroider step four, which is the berry decoration.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and place it right side down on a flat surface. Center the small green felt square right side up over the stitching area; secure using tape. Thread the needle and bobbin with green thread.
- Place the hoop into the machine and stitch the final step to secure the layers.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the felt from the hoop. Carefully cut 1/16″ beyond the perimeter stitching.

FINISH

- Mark the cuff center; put a dab of fabric glue on the mark. Center the holly over the glue and press firmly to set. Allow to dry following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Use a hot fix tool to add crystals to the berries as desired, following the manufacturer's instructions.

DESIGN

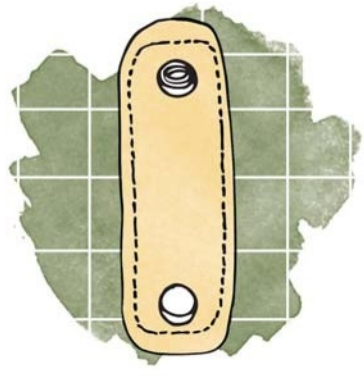
Holly Jolly Scarf Cuff embroidery designs: sueoverydesigns.com

SOURCE

Shop Sew it All carries Embroidery Perfection Tape: shopsewitall.com.

A

B



C

Q&A

by Pamela Cox

Dear Pamela,

What's the best way to embroider on shirt collars in order to achieve perfect placement and design orientation?

Signed,
Collar Confusion

DEAR COLLAR CONFUSION,
Let's approach this topic from two different angles: home-sewn garments and ready-made items.

CONSTRUCTED GARMENTS

Since the embroidery for newly constructed collars is done prior to cutting the pattern pieces, making mirror images of the right and left sides is less intimidating. Although editing software isn't essential, it's extremely helpful during the planning stages, especially if the pattern piece can be scanned and imported into the software program for use as a background. With the pattern piece as the background, embroidery files can be viewed directly on the collar and easily evaluated for compatibility in regard to size and angle **(A).**

Oftentimes a small element within a larger design stitched elsewhere on the garment provides the perfect collar accent. Once again, editing software makes isolating this element easier.

In this example, by omitting two elements of the original design (see "Designs") and isolating the main flower, the collar will feature a smaller, coordinating accent **(B).**

Position the edited design on the scanned pattern piece and rotate it, if needed, to fit the collar shape **(C).** Once satisfied with the angle of the collar accent, save the rotated file under a new name, preserving the original for future use, and transfer to the embroidery machine.

Cut the fabric in a rectangular shape slightly larger than the pattern piece (a minimum of ½" margin). With the collar pieces right sides together, trace the collar pattern shape minus the seam allowance to both the right and left collar using tailor-tack markings or a removable fabric marker.

Measure up and in to mark the design's center using tailor-tacks or pins. Exact placement isn't a requirement at this point, but try to get as close as possible.

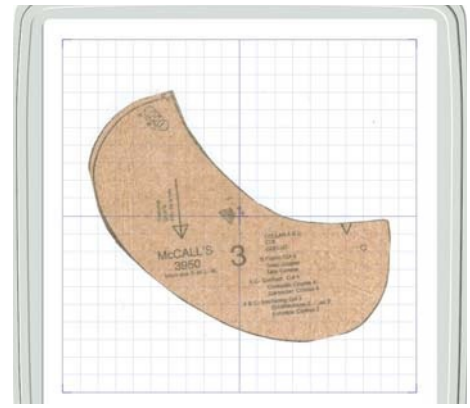
After the tailor-tacks are cut, separate the two fabric layers **(D).** Embroider the designs, flipping the design to create a mirror image.

Once both sides have been stitched, place the two embellished pieces right sides together and match key points on the design, pinning to secure.

Cut the pattern piece shape by placing the design in the appropriate position, taking seam allowances into account. The embroidery can usually be seen through the tissue paper pattern to confirm desired position **(E).**

Follow the pattern directions for the remaining shirt construction steps.

A



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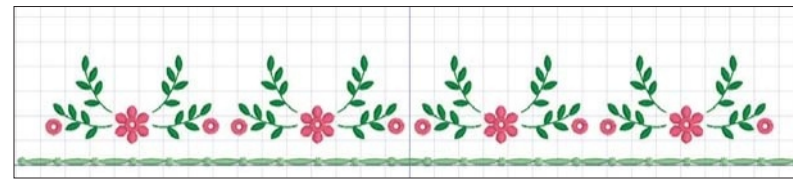

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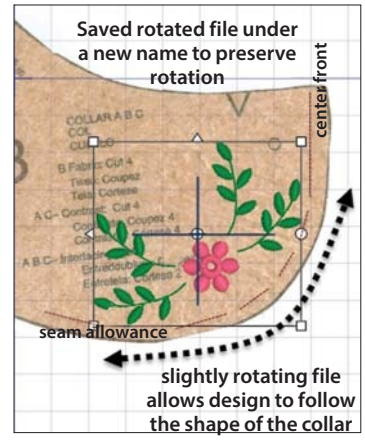

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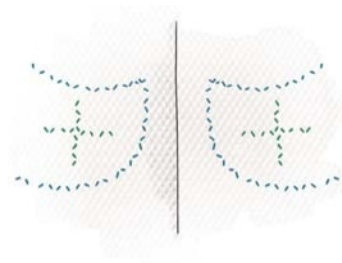

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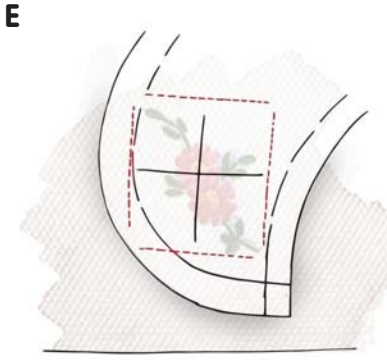

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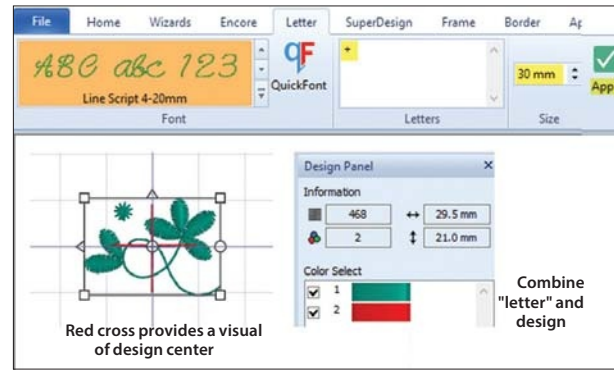

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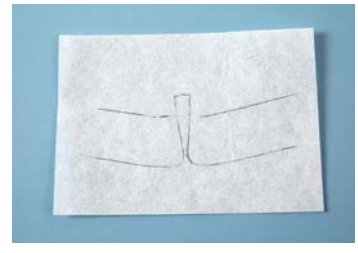

READY-MADE COLLARS

Premade collars require a slightly different approach, although the initial planning phase is much the same.

Depending on the editing software, import a photograph of the premade garment as a background or trace the premade collar onto stabilizer, scan and import it.

There are many tools on the market ranging from rulers and templates to lighting systems or even additional software that are all designed to help ensure 100% proper positioning, which is the hardest step for ready-made garments. As with all purchases, decide how often the new tool will be used to determine if it's necessary.

One of the best aids for precision placement is a printed template. However, when printing a template, the size isn't always 100% accurate. Take the time to enter exact information to produce valuable and accurate templates.

Stitching out an embroidered design on scrap fabric for use as an exact template may not be practical all the time, but for a smaller collar design where placement is critical, it might be the best approach. Add extra markers, such as a basting box around the design or even a visual center marker, for use as orientation and placement aids. Adding a center marker is easily accomplished in the lettering program of the software. Choose a simple line font, type a 25-30mm plus sign and center it over the design. Combine the designs **(F).**

Stitch a template for each side of the collar on a double thickness of stabilizer, making sure to mirror the design. Position the two designs on the collar, using the plus sign as necessary. Trace the outline of the collar onto the stabilizer and cut along it, producing a template for each collar side that can be taped to the hooped collar to ensure correct positioning and removed prior to stitching **(G).**

If the embroidery machine you're using has an exact positioning feature, after one collar side has been stitched and the other hooped, lay the free side on top, matching the collar edges. Use exact positioning to locate the design in the machine to mimic the stitched design. Once the upper collar is removed, the hooped collar is stitched as its twin.

Hooping a ready-made collar often presents its own challenges. It's best to hoop just the stabilizer and secure the collar to it by at least two of following methods: pins (outside the stitching path), machine basting, temporary spray adhesive or embroidery tape. Consider taking time to add a few stitches by hand to secure those edges that can't be secured by other methods.

When stitching on ready-made collars, it's best to use matching thread colors for both the needle and bobbin threading. This is essential for collars with the option of being worn in a conventional manner or zipped up, which then exposes the wrong side. For these projects, use an invisible stabilizer that's easily cut away but won't show in smaller areas where it's impossible to remove.

DESIGN
Floral accents: Graceful Embroidery, Heirloom Series Le Bebe Royal; gracefulembroidery.com

SOURCE
Husqvarna Viking provided the Premier+™ Ultra Software referenced throughout this article: husqvarnaviking.com.

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Stitch a quilt with Liz & Elizabeth Evans. The Simple Simon Guide To Patchwork Quilting is a beginner guide to falling in love with quilting and sewing. This book features eight traditional blocks, their history, and excellent how-tos and instructions. A lovely book for the beginner, this would make a nice stocking stuffer for the new quilter. **Interweave.com**

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While the weather outside is frightful, you'll be warm and toasty in the Evening With The Stars robe. This lovely robe is a one-size-fits-most drop sleeve bathrobe. Embellish it with the Moon & Stars design for a delightful sparkle. This project is not only easy to make for yourself, but is a thoughtful gift idea. The pattern and design are at **shopsewitall.com.**

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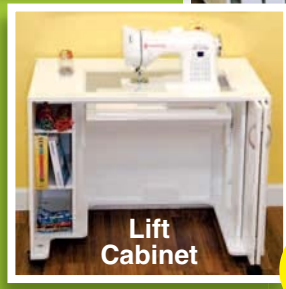

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